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THE
L I F E

OF THE LATE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
ROBERT Earl of *ORFORD*.

Knight of the Most Noble Order of
the Garter.

INCLUDING
A Brief History of his Whole Family.

By WILLIAM MUSGRAVE, Esq;

THE SECOND EDITION.

L O N D O N :
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THIS has been so eminent a Man, that every Action of his Life is a Proof of it. How can his Happen in the great Cause of Liberty and his Country, and with what immortal Firmness and Con-

PREFACE.



VERY Day's Experience demonstrates, that, whatever in the least tends to the Service of his Country, cannot fail of Sir Robert Walpole's Approbation.

THE great and generous Maxims by which our Ancestors governed themselves, may perhaps amuse and please, and excite in us some faint Desires to imitate them; but when they stand exemplified in the Conduct of so great, so sincere a Patriot, it is then they

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strike us with irresistible Force; and oblige us to confess, that the only Way to true and lasting Honour, is by a steady Pursuit of it in the Paths of Virtue and Integrity.

THIS has been so eminently his Practice, that every Action of his Life is a Proof of it. How early did he appear in the glorious Cause of Liberty and his Country, and with what immoveable Firmness and Constancy hath he on all Occasions maintained its true Interests! When a dark and melancholy Cloud hung over our Heads, and we saw nothing but Ruin before our Eyes, how bravely did he then oppose himself to the overbearing Torrent! And by the Force of his Eloquence, raise the drooping Spirits of the Senate and Nation, and teach them by his great Example, that no Hazards, no Dangers were to be declined for so inestimable a Prize!

THESE Arts, and these alone, have justly raised him to the highest Stations, and to the Favour of Two Princes of the sublimest Wisdom and Virtue. With what happy Conduct and Prudence he discharges the great and important Trusts reposed in him,
will

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will be the glorious Theme of future Historians. They will tell, that when by an unaccountable Infatuation we had plunged ourselves into the extremest Miseries, his Care and Vigilance again restored the Credit of his Country to its ancient Glory, and established it upon a firm and immoveable Basis. Nor will they forget the grateful Tribute of their Praises, when they reflect upon his Vigilance, in bringing to Light a Conspiracy, formed and carried on by the most refined and secret Malice, against the best of Princes and Governments. But these are Subjects which require a masterly Pen to do them Justice; and if I presume to mention them, it is only because, on the present Occasion, it is impossible to be silent.

IN the midst of all his Cares for his Country, I will take the Freedom to offer up the following Memoirs at the Shrine of his Merit; and persuade myself, that the Publick will not find them unworthy their Perusal. The greatest Thing I can say of them, is, that the Collections are faithfully extracted from genuine Vouchers; and contain many important historical Facts hitherto unknown.

AS

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*AS to him, who reflects the greatest Lustre upon the whole, I agree in the Sentiments of a late noble Writer, that, The very best Men, have it not in their Power, so to conduct themselves in a censorious World, as to be safe from Envy and Calumny. **

PHILAETHES.

* See Lord Lansdowne's Vindication of Sir Richard Granville. 4to. p. 557.



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MEMOIRS

Of the FAMILY of

WALPOLE.



THE FAMILY of *WALPOLE* (which took its Denomination from a Town of *that Name* in *Norfolk*) was seated in *England* before the Conquest, as is manifest from several Authorities cited by ¹ *Camden*, where he assures us that the Owner of *Walpole* gave both that, and *Wisbeech* in the Isle of *Ely*, at the same Time, that he made his younger Son *Alwin* a Monk there. This is farther evident from ² *Edward* the Confessor's

B

fessor's

¹ *Britan. in Com. Norf. cum Rev. Edm. Gibsoni Annotat.* p. 473. 495. ² *Dugdale's Monast. Vol. I. p. 94.*

feffor's Confirmation of the Town of *Walpole* to the said Monastery.

THIS Town consists of two distinct Parishes, namely, ¹ *Walpole St. Andrews*, and *Walpole St. Peters*, at the last of which this Family had its Residence, as appears from several ancient Charters in the Custody of the Right Honourable Sir *Robert Walpole*, who out of Regard to Literature, and the Memory of his Ancestors, favoured me with the Perusal of them.

THE first that occurs is *Reginald de Walpol*, who probably lived about the Time of the Conquest; he being stiled Father of *Richard de Walpol*, in a Deed without Date, of *Walter* Son of *William de Navelton* ², wherein he gave to *Richard de Walpol*, in Marriage with his Daughter *Emma*, all his Lands, &c. lying in *Reidon*, a Parish nigh *Houghton*, where the Family has had its Residence ever since the Reign of King HENRY the Third.

IT is no Way improbable but that this *Richard* was ³ Father of *Henry de Walpol*, who is said to have held one Knight's Fee in *Houghton* in *Henry* the Second's Reign,
of

¹ Index Villaris. p. 369.

² Ex orig. Chart. N^o I. penes præhon. Dom. Rob. Walpole de Houghton.

³ Ex Lib. Manuf. vocat. Ant. Tenur. de Com. Norf.

of the Fee of *Blaumisser*, and a fourth Part so much of the Honour of *Wyrmegey*. This *Henry de Walpol* is stiled a Knight in an un-dated Release, of ¹ *Alexander de Cokefeld* and his Son, whereby they Assign over to him and his Wife all their Right in 22 Acres of Land in the Fields of *Walpol*; *Stephen de Walpol* and others being Witnesse. He is likewise stiled a Knight, in a Deed, without Date, of ² *Nicolas*, Son to *Roger Heved* of *Houton* as Witness to his Grant of Lands in the Fields of *Houton*.

His Successor was ³ *John de Walpol* who in 1235, 20th of King *Henry III.* together with *Isabel* his Wife, held the fourth Part of a Knight's Fee of *Roger Bigot* Earl of *Norfolk*, in great *Ringsted* and *Holme*, two Villages nigh *Houghton*, which still pay a Quit-Rent to this Family. ⁴ He was one of the Jurors for *Norfolk*, at the Pleas at *Westminster* in 1253, 38 *Henry III.* and in an un-dated Charter of *Walter Frost de Well*, he is stiled ⁵ *Dominus Johannes de Walpole, Miles*, this *Walter* having thereby granted him several Lands, with a Fishery called *Neuvere*, &c.

ABOUT

¹ Ex Orig. Chart. N^o. 2.

² Ex Orig Chart. N^o 2.

³ Ex lib. M. S. de Norf. prædict.

⁴ M. S. in Bibl.

Cotton. sub Effigie Titi. A. VII. fol. 47.

⁵ Charta,

N^o. 5.

ABOUT the same Time lived *William* Son to *Adam de Walpol* who with *Robert Sculham* and others ¹ arraigned *Hubert de Burgh*, &c. concerning certain Tenements in *Tilney*, *Tyrinton*, *Walpoll*, *Walton*, *Wal-fokne*, and *Hagbeth* in *Norfolk*. In the same Reign also lived *Robert de Walepol*, Clerk of the Pantry to *Henry III.* in the 47th Year of his Reign, and ² held the same Office in that of King *Edward I.* His Duty, as the Record shews, was to lay in Provisions for the King's Houshold, and keep an Account of Expences. *Edmund de Walpol* was contemporary with the two before mentioned. He was chosen Abbot of the Abbey of *St. Edmund* in *Suffolk*, and ³ confirmed therein by *Hugh* Bishop of *Ely*, and having enjoyed that Abbacy nine Years, he departed this Life 2 Kalend. Jan. 1256.

SIR *John de Walpol* before mentioned had at least three Sons, as the Deeds evidence; *Henry de Walpol* was his Heir, *William* and *Ralph* younger Children. *Alexander de Walpol* lived about the same Time; for in 22 *Ed. I.* ⁴ he had a Deputation given him to view all the Lands which lay adjacent to the Bank of *Pokedyke* in *Com. Norf.* and to allow a valuable Con-

¹ Rot. Par. 17. Hen. 3. m. 7. dorso. ² Rot. Liberat 3. Ed. I. m. 6. ³ *Dugdale's Monastic.* Vol I. p. 295.

⁴ *Dugdale's History of Imbanking and Draining*, p. 246.

Consideration for such Earth as should be required to repair it. In the 34th Year of the same Reign he ¹ obtained the King's License (dated at *Caversham*, Nov. 22) to give a Toft, 35 Acres of Land, and 10 of Pasture, in *Wigenhale* and *Tylney*, to the Priory, and Convent of *Westacre* in the County of *Norfolk*.

WILLIAM de Walpol who calls himself ² Son of *John de Walpol* left to *Henry* Son of Sir *John de Walpol*, Knt. and *Henry* his Son and their Heirs, divers Lands in *Thornmere* in *Walpol*, as appears from a Charter dated there in the 25th Year of King *Edward* I. and by another dated the same Year ³ he assigned to the said *Henry de Walpol*, (there stiled Knt.) and *Henry* his Son, other Lands in the same Place.

RALPH de Walpol who writes himself Son of *John* and Clerk of *Houton* ⁴ gave to *Thomas de Clenchwardetoun*, one Piece of Land called *Longland*, lying in the Fields of *Houton*, by a Deed without Date, to which Sir *Henry Walpol* and others were Witnesses. This is in all probability the same *Ralph de Walpol* who was Bishop of *Norwich* and of *Ely*. That he was at least of this Family is evident from his Arms in
the

¹ Pat. 34. Ed. I. m. 40.

² Charta 25. Ed. I. n. 7.

³ Chart. 25. Ed. I. n. 8.

⁴ Chart. n. 4.

the Windows in *Ely* Cathedral; as likewise from the Register of *Walpol St. Peter's*, where is an Account of his Birth. ¹ The Dignity of Archdeacon of *Ely* was conferred on him *Anno* 1271. 55 *Hen. III.* He was elected Bishop of *Norwich* on the 11th of *Nov.* 1288, was ² confirmed in that See by *John Peckham* Archbishop of *Canterbury* at *South-Malling* in *Kent* (after his Return to *England*, from waiting on the King to the Frontiers of *Aragon*, where he obtained the Royal Assent) and consecrated in *Canterbury* on the 20th of *March* following, being Mid-Lent Sunday, as appears from the Register of *Walpol St. Peter's*. He sat in the See of *Norwich* about ten Years, and was then nominated by the Pope to *Ely* upon the Death of *William de Luda*, on a great Contest about that Bishoprick, and translated thither by his Bull bearing Date, *July* 15, 1299. ³ *John Salmon* Prior of *Ely*, one of the Competitors for that See being made Bishop of *Norwich*, and *John de Langton* (then the King's Chancellour) the other, was afterwards raised to the See of *Chichester*. *Ralph de Walpol* held the Bishoprick of *Ely* scarce three Years, dying *March* 20, 1301-2, and was interred on *April* 1, beneath one of the

¹ *Le Neve Fasti Eccles. Anglic.* p. 73.
Angl. Sacra, Pars I. p. 412.

² *Wharton*
³ *Bishop Godwin's Catalogue of the Bishops of England*, p. 211.

the ¹ five large grey Marbles in the Presbytery before the high Altar, in the middle Ile, nigh Bishop *Redman's* Tomb. The Effigies of Bishops with Shields of Arms in Plates of Brass being fixed thereon; but those, with the Inscription, are long since torn away and lost. This Prelate gave several Vestments to this Church, and was a Benefactor to it other Ways. And as he behaved with the utmost Honour and Integrity in both Sees, he has a just Claim to this Memorial.

HENRY this Bishop's elder Brother who succeeded his Father Sir *John Walpol* in his Manors of *Walpol*, *Houton*, and other Lands, was suspected of siding with the Barons in their Wars with King *Henry III.* For *Simon Montfort* the younger, (one of the chief Heads of the Rebellion) having ²made himself Master of the Isle of *Ely* in 50 *Hen. III.* *John le Bretton* was assigned the Year following, to enquire whether this *Henry de Walpol* was ³in Arms, or making Depredations against the King on his faithful Subjects in the Isle of *Ely* or elsewhere. He was honoured with Knight-hood before the 8th of King *Edward I.* For a Charter of ⁴*Walter Faber* of *Appleton*

¹ Ex Collect. Brown Willis, Arm. ² Dugd. Warwick, p. 163, ex Chron. Abend. f. 122. a. ³ Pat. 51. Hen. III. dorso. Norf. ⁴ Chart. 8. Ed. I. N^o 6.

pleton then written and dated at Rudham, styles him *Dominus Henricus de Walpol, Miles*. In the 25 *Ed. I.* ¹ he was one of the greatest Note among those of *Norfolk* or *Suffolk* who were summoned to meet at *London* on Sunday after the Octaves of *St. John the Baptist*, with Horse and Arms according to their Rank, to accompany the King beyond Sea, for their own Honour, and the Safety of the King and Kingdom; as the Words of the Writ itself import. This Expedition was taken in behalf of ² *Guy* Earl of *Flanders*, then harrassed by the *French* King, who had taken several Places from him. He had ³ another Summons, in the 29th Year of the same King *Ed. I.* with sundry great Men besides, to attend his Majesty at *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, on the Feast of *St. John Baptist's* Nativity, well mounted and accoutred, to march against the *Scots*, according to the Tenure of Lands which he held in the Counties of *Cambridge* and *Huntington*. *Edmund Gurgun* of *West-Rudham*, assigned over to ⁴ *Henry* Son of *Sir John Walpol, Knt.* and and to *Henry* his Son, and his Heirs, the same Year, all his Right and Claim in the Lands called *Grancrundell* in *Houton*, which
Alice

¹ M. S. in Biblioth. Cotton. sub Effig. Claud. c. 2. p. 91.

² Hist. of England, Vol I. p. 197. ³ Claus. 29. Ed. I. m. 13. and Ryley's Plac. Parl. p. 491. ⁴ Chart. 29. Ed. I. N^o 9.

Alice late Wife of *Ralph*, Son of *Hugh de Loverd* of *Houton* held in Dower. This Sir *Henry de Walpol* married *Isabel* Daughter of Sir *Peter Fitz-Osbert* and ¹ Heir to her Brother Sir *Roger Fitz-Osbert*, who was summoned to Parliament in the 22 *Ed. I.* She surviving him was afterwards married to Sir *Walter Jernegan*, by which Match, the Lordship of *Somerly*, and several other Lands (according to ² *Camden's* Observation) devolved on the Family of the *Jernegans* after Sir *Roger Fitz-Osbert's* Demise. She departed this Life about the 4th of *Edward II.* and held a third Part of the Manor of *Houton* in Dower, as is evident from a Charter of that Date ³ wherein she is stiled *Isabella Gernegayn* late Wife of Sir *Henry Walpol*, Knt. Father of Sir *Henry Walpol*, Knt. who was then living.

THIS *Henry* is also ⁴ called Son of Sir *Henry Walpol*, Knt. in a Charter of *John Estcroft*, dated at the Church of St. *Peter's* in *Walpol*, wherein he grants certain Lands there, to him and his Heirs. This happened on the *Wednesday* after the Feast of St. *Benedict* the Abbot, in 33 *Ed. I.* In the 35th of the same Reign
C the

¹ Ex Stemmate de Familia Jernegan.

Com. Suffolk, Vol. I. p. 451.

N^o 13.

⁴ Chart. 33. Ed. I. N^o 15.

² Britann. in

³ Chart. 4. Ed. II.

the said *Henry de Walpol* was found by Inquisition before *John le Harfike* Coroner of the County of *Norfolk*, to be ¹ Lord of the Manor and Villages of *Houton*, and that *Roger Kestelton*, outlawed for Felony, held one Messuage and 52 Acres of Land of him for Service. Besides 5 s. per Ann. Rent, and other Lands, to the Amount of 19 d. Rent. He had the Honour of Knighthood conferred upon him either 1 *Ed. II.* or before; for at a Sessions, of Sewers, held at *Cowstowe*, within the Liberties of *Tilney*, on Monday after the Feast of *St. Peter* and *St. Paul*, that same Year, ² Sir *Henry de Walpol*, Knt. and the Prior of *Meremond* appeared for the Prior of *Ixworth*, against a Verdict found by the Jurors relating to the Banks from *Stone-Cross* to *Cowestowe*, the Issue of which was that the said Jurors were amerced for erroneously presenting it as a Sea Bank. ³ *Robert de Sabam*, and *Adam de Chamberleyn* granted to Sir *Henry Walpol*, Knt. Son of Sir *Henry Walpol*, Knt. and to *Alice* his Wife and their Heirs, 4 *Ed. II.* two Parts of the Manour of *Houton* near *Harpele*, with all Lands, Tenements, Rents, Services, &c. as also the Lands and Tenements which Sir *Henry de Walpol*, Knt. Father of

¹ Record. Bundel. in Turre Londiniensi.
History of Imbanking, p. 248.
No 13.

² *Dugdale's*
Chart. 4 *Ed. II.*

of the said Sir *Henry*, acquired of *Asceline* the Daughter of *Hugh de Loverd* of *Houton* of the Fee of *Wyrmegeye*. He also gave to the said Sir *Henry* and *Alice* one Third of the Manor which the Lady *Isabel Gernegayn* late Wife of Sir *Henry Walpol*, Knt. Father to Sir *Henry*, held in Dower together with 60 Acres of Land in *Walpol* and *Walton*, which the said Sir *Henry Walpol*, Knt. Father of the said Sir *Henry* had of his Father's Inheritance, and Purchase of *Adam Mustrel*. This Charter is dated at *Walpol* on Monday the Feast of St. *Andrew*. 4 *Ed. II.*

IN the Parliament which met at *Lincoln* in 9 *Ed. II.* (wherein it was enacted ¹ that none should depart, without the King's especial Licence) this Sir *Henry de Walpol* and ² *Robert Baynard*, were chosen Representatives for the County of *Norfolk*. This Parliament was chiefly summoned to settle the Perambulation of Forrefts, which was made in the Reign of *Ed. I.* but not well observed, as is evident by the ³ Writ and other ⁴ Authorities. In 16 *Ed. II.* he was deputed one of the ⁵ Commissioners for the County of *Norfolk* to assess and collect

C 2

¹ Claus. 9 *Ed. II.* m. 16. dorf.
² *Pryn's* 4th Part of a brief Register, p. 43.
³ Claus. 9 *Ed. II.* m. 3. dorf.
⁴ *Walsingham's Hist. Ang. & Ypodigma. Anno: 1316.*
⁵ *Rot. de Asses. penes præhon. Dom. Rob Walpole.*

left a Subsidy of a Sixth, granted the King in Parliament, and *William de Walpol*, and *Adam de Walpol*, are charged in the Assesment Roll: He was returned into ¹ *Chancery* the next Year, among those Knights who were certified to bear ancient Arms from their Ancestors. He made several Purchases of Lands as well in *Walpol* as *Houton*, as appears from sundry Deeds bearing Date from 2 King *Ed. II.* to 7 King *Ed. III.* and was living 9 *Ed. III.* for at that Time he, with *Alice* his Wife ² constituted *Henry* Vicar of the Church of *Houton* to deliver Seisin to *John de Ketilston* and others, of two Parcels of Land at *Willisgreen*, in the Fields of *Houton*; and dying soon after, he left *Henry* his Son and Heir, in whose Time ³ *Richard de Walpol* and *Adam de Walpol* in 20 *Ed. III.* had a Grant of the Office of Coiners of the King's Money, in as ample a Manner as *Simon de Berkyng*.

THIS *Henry de Walpol* was returned one of the ⁴ Knights for the County of *Norfolk*, to the Parliament summoned to meet at *York*, the Friday before the Feast of *St. Nicholas*, 7 *Ed. III.* and with *Robert de Walkfare* the other Knight, had a Writ directed to the Sherif, (as was the Custom of

¹ M. S. in Bibl. Cotton. Claudius, c. 2. p. 64. ² Chart.
³ Ed. III. n. 24. ⁴ Pat. 20 Ed. III. p. 2. m. 5.
⁵ Prynn's 4th Part of a brief Register, p. 122.

of the Age) for their Expences in attending nineteen Days at 4 s. *per Diem*. He was the first Witness to a ¹ Charter of *William Coria* dated at *Houton* 10 Ed. III. 1335. and afterwards to several others in the Reigns of *Edward III.* and *Richard II.* touching his Manors of *Houton*, *Harpley*, &c. in ² one of which dated 6 R. II. his Son *Edmund* is Witness with him. He lived to a vast Age, for in the 9 Hen. IV. Anno 1407, being then stiled ³ *Henry de Walpol Senior* he settles in trust on Sir *William Calthorp*, Sir *John de Colvoyle*, Knts. and others, all his Lands and Tenements in *Houton*, *West-Rudham*, *Harpeley*, &c. with all Rents, Services, Freemen, Natives, Villains, &c. Homage Wards, Marriages, &c. Woods, Waters, Fisheries, and all other Commodities thereunto belonging, paying his Daughter *Catherine* an annual Rent of four Marks of Silver during her Life: To which Charter a fair Seal is appendant, of a Fress with Three Cross-Crosetts between two Cheverons, circumscribed S. H. WALPOL.

HIS Successor was ⁴ *Henry Walpol*, Esq; who in 6 Hen. VI. granted his Manor of ⁵ *Crymlesham* (which he had of *Henry Tolbothe*)

¹ Chart. 10 Ed. III. n. 25. ² Chart. 6 R. II. n. 48.

³ Chart. 9 H. IV. n. 54. ⁴ Ex Registro vocat. Hyrning in Cur. Prærog. Norvic.

⁵ Rot. Par. 6 Hen. VI. p. 2.

Tolbothe) to Sir *Simon Felbrigge*, Knt. Sir *John Howard*, Knt. and others. His Name is also in several Charters relating to his Manors of *Houton*, &c. in *Henry VI's* Reign; in whose twelfth Year, when the Title of the House of *York* began to be set on Foot, and Commissioners were appointed in every County, to summon all Persons of Note, and tender them an Oath, drawn up by the Parliament then held; this *Henry Walpool*, Esq; and ¹ *John Walpool* were returned among those of the chief Note in *Norfolk*, and sworn to the Observance of the Articles contained in that Oath, and to keep the Peace for themselves and their Vassals. This *John Walpool* (as the Name was then wrote) stiles himself *John Walpool* of *Bychamwell* in his ² last Will, dated *Jan. 13, 1433*, wherein he deposes his Brother *Thomas Walby* Executor, and leaves him Guardian to his two Daughters, *Isabel* and *Cecilie*.

AS to *Henry de Walpool*, he lived till the twentieth Year of King *Henry VI.* as is evident from his last Will, bearing Date at *Houton* on *Friday* the Feast of *St. Cruse* 1442. 20 H. VI. and proved at ³ *Norwich*

¹ *Fuller's Worthies in Com. Norf.* p. 265, 266. ² M. S. Not. c. 4. in *Bibl. Joh. Antis Arm.* Ex Registro vocat. *Hyrning* in *Curia Prærog. Norwic.* ³ Ex Registro vocat. *Doke* 3. in *Curia Prærog. Norwic.*

which on the seven and twentieth of June the same Year. He married Margaret Daughter to Sir Oliver le Grosse of Croftwick in Norfolk, Knt. and John his second Son (who possessed the Manor of Isted) is styled ² John Walpool, Esq; Son of Henry Walpool, Esq; 30 Hen. VI. but whether he died without Issue, or what Relation he was to John Walpool of Tilney is not certain. The said ³ John Walpool of Tylney's last Will bears Date the fourteenth of May 1507, and the Probate thereof the last of July the same Year, whereby he orders his Body to be buried in the Church-yard of St. Laurence of Tilney, and bequeaths to the high Altar of Allballows in Tilney 4 s. and 4 d. for his Tithes forgotten, and towards the Repairs of the Church four Marks. To the Church of All Saints in Tilney 13 s. 4 d. and towards the Repairs of the Church of Islington 13 s. 4 d. He was moreover a Benefactor to the four Orders of Fryars in Lynn and South-Lynn; and appointed John Alisaund of Lynn and Thomas Tyler, his Executors, leaving them Guardians to his Son Thomas, and Keepers of his Head-Place, with all the Lands belonging to him, till he arrived at the Age of one and twenty Years.

HENRY

¹ Ex Stemmate. ² Chart. 30 Hen. VI. n. 69.
³ Ex Registr. vocat. A. Dean. N^o 13. qu. 24 in Cur. Prærog. Cantuar.

HENRY Walpole, H of *Walpole* and *Houghton*, Esq; (eldest Son of the last *Henry* and *Margaret* his Wife, the fifth of that Name in lineal Descent) is mentioned in several Deeds concerning his Manors of *Houghton*, &c. during the Course of *Henry* the Sixth's Reign. In one whereof, dated 28. H. 6th ¹, *Nicholas Atte Chirche* of *North Barsham*, and others Feoffees of the last Will of *Henry Walpool*, Senior, grant to *Henry Walpool*, Esq; his Son, the Manor of *Houton*, and all Lands, &c. in which Charter the said Manors are intailed on *Henry*, *John*, *William*, *Martin*, *Catharine*, and *Alice*, according to the last Will of *Henry Walpool*, Senior, Esq; ². In the 34th Year of *Henry* the Sixth, *Henry Walpool*, Esq; the Son, grants to *John Byrston* Senior, Esq; *John Compton*, *John Wood*, *John Bryston*, Jun. and *Philip Sutton*, Esqs; his Manor of *Walpol*, with all the Lands, Meadows, Pastures, Rents, Services, Wards, Marriages, &c. and all other Appurtenances whatever; to hold the said Manor to them, their Heirs, and Assigns; it is highly probable, this was but in Trust, tho' the Uses are not mentioned. The Time of his Death is not specified, but by ³ *Margery* his

¹ Chart. 28. Hen. 6. n. 67. ² Chart. 34. Hen. 6. n. 68.

³ Vis. de Com. Norf. in Offic. Armor. & in Bibl. Harley. Not. 90. B. 13.

his Wife, Daughter of Sir *Edmund Harfick*, or rather of Sir *John Harfick*, buried in *South-acre* in *Norfolk*, Ann. 7 *Richard II.* he had Issue, *John Walpole* his Son and Heir.

THIS *John Walpole* of *Houghton*, Esq; married *Elizabeth* Daughter of *Robert Sharwe* of *Derby*, Esq; by whom he had Issue *Thomas*, with whom by his Charter ¹ dated at *Houghton*, Dec. 4, in the 8th of *H. VII.* he granted Lands in *Houghton* to *Henry Abraham*, Clerk, Rector of *Harpeley*. His second Son ² *William Walpole* died without Issue. He left also two Daughters ³ *Alice* and ⁴ *Maude*.

THOMAS WALPOLE, Esq; already mentioned, had a ⁵ Grant of Lands in *Houghton* in the 1st Year of *Hen. VII.* from *William Fowkes*, and others, whereunto *John Walpole*, Esq; was a Witness. He had several other Grants of Lands in that Reign; and stiling himself, *Thomas Walpole*, Esq; Son and Heir of *John Walpole*, Esq; deceased in ⁶ 4 *Hen. VIII.* He grants to Sir *John Heydon*, Knt. *Geffery Cobbe* of *Sandringham*, *William Cobbe*, Gent. *William*
D *Paston*,

¹ Chart. 8 *Hen. VII.* n. 75.

² Vis. de Com. *Norf.*

præd. ³ Chart. 8 *Hen. VII.* n. 74.

⁴ Ex Registro

Multon in Curia Prærogativ. *Norvic.*

⁵ Chart. 1 *Hen.*

VII. n. 70.

⁶ Chart. 4 *Hen. VIII.* n. 76.

Paston, Esq; *Thomas Leighton* and *Robert Gerveys*, Burghers and Aldermen of *Bishops Lenn*, *Ralph Palmer*, Clerk, and *William Meene* of *Weybrede*, his Manor of *Howeton* with the Appurtenances, all his Lands and Tenements in *Harpley*, *Rudham*, &c. (in Trust) for the Performance of his last Will and Testament. This ¹ Will bears Date *May 24, 1512. 4 Hen. VIII.* whereby it appears that he had two Wives *Joan* and *Alice*, which last outlived him. It also shews that *John* his eldest Son died before him, but that he married a Wife named *Anne* who survived him. That his Daughter *Agnes* married *Sir William Russel*, and that *Edward Walpole* was his eldest surviving Son, and consequently his Heir. However, he appointed his Son *Henry Walpole*, and *Geffery* and *William Cobbe* his Brothers-in-Law Executors of his last Will and Testament: His first Wife *Joan* who was ² Daughter to *William Cobbe* of *Sandringham*, Esq; ³ died 24th of *Jan. 5 Hen. VIII.*

BUT before I take Notice of *Edward* his eldest Son, it may not be amiss to treat of the Descendants of *Henry* his second, who

¹ Ex Regist. vocat. *Multon* in Curiâ Prærogat. Norvic.

² Vis. de Com. Norf. præd.

³ *Cole's Esc. Lib. I. Not.*

12. MS. in Bibl. Harley.

who married *Margaret* the Daughter and Coheir of — *Holtofte* of *Whaplode* in *Lincolnshire*, Gent. and by her had Issue ¹ *Thomas Walpole* of *Whaplode* Ancestor to the *Walpoles* in *Lincolnshire*. His second Son was *John Walpole*, his third *Francis*, and his fourth *Christopher Walpole* of *Docking* in *Norfolk*, who left Issue. But *John*, who was the most remarkable of them all, for his extraordinary Learning, and great Proficiency in the Study of the Laws. He raised a very considerable Fortune, but died in the Flower of his Age, before he had a sufficient Opportunity of ascending to those Dignities of the Law, to which otherwise, his eminent Abilities would have advanced him. Being entered a Student of *Gray's-Inn*, he was ² soon conspicuous for his bright Parts, and sober Carriage, insomuch, that in the third Year of *Edward* the Sixth, the Society made Choice of him as Collector of the Gifts and Rewards on behalf of such Serjeants of their House as were called in *Hillary* Term that Year. In the third Year of the same Reign, he was ³ *Lent* Reader to that Society, and after that double Reader thereof, a Post, which none but Persons of distinguished Learning had ever filled; and hav-

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¹ Ex Stemmat. in Vis. de Com. Norf. ² Dugdale
Origines Juridicales, p. 137. ³ Ibid. p. 293.

ing been ¹ returned a Member for *Lincoln* in the Parliament which met at *Westminster*, Oct. the fifth, in the first Year of Queen *Mary*; he was on *June* the first following, 1554, called by the royal Writ to the Dignity of ² a Serjeant at Law, along with seven others, the most noted of their Profession, and their Feast was celebrated with great Pomp and Splendour in the *Inner-Temple-Hall* on the sixteenth of *October* following, each Serjeant presenting to the King and Queen Rings of Angel Gold valued, besides the Fashion, at three Pounds, six Shillings, and eight Pence. He married ³ *Catherine* the Daughter of *Edmund Knivet* of *Ashwelthorp*, Esq; and of ⁴ *Jane* his Wife, who was Daughter and sole Heir of Sir *John Bourchier*, Knt, Lord *Berners*; and dying in 1557, as is evident from the Probate of his Will on the sixteenth of *February* that Year, he therein desires, that “*Thomas* “ Lord Bishop of ⁵ *Ely* would take upon “ him the Guardianship and Government “ of his Son *William*, till he came to the “ Age of one and twenty Years. And as “ to his Daughters, *Mary*, *Jane*, *Catherine* “ and *Anne*, he leaves them to the Care of

¹ Ex Collectaneis Brown Willis, Arm. & Mar. pars 3.

³ P. 129. & seq.

² Pat. 1 & 2 Ph.

mate.

⁴ Ex Stemmate. ⁵ Ex Registr. vocat. Noodes. p. 1. Not. 39. qu. 6. in Curia Prærog. Cantuar.

“ of his Executors, *Martin Hastings*, Esq;
 “ his Cousin *Henry Spylman*, Esq; *Robert*
 “ *Cooke*, Esq; his Cousin *Geffery Cobbe*,
 “ Esq; his Brother *Christopher Walpole* and
 “ *Thomas Scorlet* his Servant”. *William*
 the Son dying afterwards without Issue,
 the Daughters became Co-heirs to his E-
 state.

BUT to return to *Edward* the eldest
 Son and Heir of *Thomas Walpole*, Esq;.
 He being full ¹ thirty Years of Age at his
 Father's Death, had Livery of his Lands,
 as is manifest from an Inquisition taken at
Norwich the twenty sixth of September, 6
Hen VIII. In the twenty seventh Year
 of this King's Reign, *Thomas Headbam* and
 others granted to ² *Edward Walpole*, Esq;
 and *Lucy* his Wife, and to *John* their Son
 and Heir apparent, one Messuage in *Hough-*
ton, &c. *Lucy* was Daughter to Sir *Terrey*
Robsart, by his Wife, the Daughter and
 Heir of Sir *Thomas Siderston* of *Siderston*
 in *Norfolk*, Knt. and (by the Death of her
 Brother Sir *John Robsart* and his Daugh-
 ter *Anne* without Issue) became at last ³ sole
 Heir to her Great-Grandfather Sir *John*
Robsart, Knight Banneret, and Knight of the
 most noble Order of the Garter, famous
 for

¹ *Cole's Esc. MS.* p. 204. in *Bibl. Harley.*
 27 H. VIII.

² *Chart.*
³ *Vif. de Com. Norf. ut antea.*

for his surprizing Valour in several Actions in *France* in the Reigns of *Henry IV, V,* and *VI.* He was descended from an honourable Family; his Father was *Robert* Baron of *Cannon* in *Heinalt*, for which Reason, some of our Writers name him *Cannon Robsart.* He was Son to *John Robsart* one of those notable Generals who (with ¹ *Richard Verchin*, Lord High Seneschal of *Heinalt*) surprized *John* Duke of *Normandy*, eldest Son to *Philip* King of *France*, in his Quarters at *Montais* on the River *Selle.* In the fourteenth Year of *Edward III.* the Lord *Robert Robsart* signalized himself in Behalf of the *English* (when *K. Edward* lay before *Rheims*, Anno 1359) by taking ² the Castle of *Commercy*, and the Overthrow of the Lord *Gomeignes*, Governour to the young Earl of *Coucy*, and Manager of his Lands. He was famous for sundry other Exploits during that Reign. He accompanied the Duke of *Lancaster* and several of the *English* Nobility into *France*, in the ³ forty seventh Year of *Edward III.* and afterwards took ⁴ several Castles in *Spain* in the ⁵ *Richard II.* He left three Sons behind him, *John*, ⁶ *Lewis* and ⁶ *Theodorick* (or *Terrey*) who were all Com-

¹ *Barnes's Hist. of Ed. III. p. 170.* ² *Froisart's Chron. cap. 208, 209.* ³ *Froisart's Chron. f. 190. a.* ⁴ *Ib. 273. a.* ⁵ *Dugdale's Baron. Vol. II. p. 202.* ⁶ *Ex Lib. MS. de Vita Mil. Gart. in Musæo Ashmol. Notat. 1118.*

Commanders of eminent Note in the *Eng-
lish* Service; but I shall only touch briefly
upon the Actions of *John* the eldest. The
first ¹ Opportunity he had of distinguish-
ing himself, was in the Wars with the *Sa-
racens*, in the Reign of King *Richard II.*
He received the Honour of Knighthood
before *Henry* the IVth's Reign; for that
King ² out of his especial Grace, and for
the good Services of his beloved and faithful
Knight Sir *John Roberfart*, grants him one
hundred Pounds *per Annum* during Life,
payable out of his Exchequer, by Letters
Patent, bearing Date, *Nov.* the seventeenth,
in the first Year of his Reign: And King
Henry Vth ³ confirmed his Patent in the
first of his Reign. He attended this King
at his Landing in *France*, and was after-
wards one of the chief Captains under the
Duke of *Gloucester* the King's Brother, at
the Siege of ⁴ *Caen* in *Normandy*, his Bro-
ther Sir *Lewis Robfart* being another. He
was deputed by the Duke of *Gloucester* ⁵
Hen. V. to treat with the ³ Governours of
the Castles of *Vire*, *Hambye*, *St. Lo*, and
Carenton, for the Surrender of their Cas-
tles into his Hands, which were all
accordingly delivered up the very same
Year. He was deputed the Year fol-
lowing

¹ *Froisart's Chron.*² *Pat. r Hen. IV.*³ *Pat.*⁴ *H. V. p. 4. m. 15.*⁴ *Hall's Chron. f. 58.*⁵ *Ry-**mer's Fœdera, Vol. IX. p. 545, 553, 554, 557.*

lowing to treat with the ¹ Governour of *Pont-Down*, and with the Governour, Knights, &c. of *Chierburgh*, as also with *Monf. Robert de Freville*, Knt. Governour of the Castle of *St. Saviour le Visconte*: All which Forts being delivered up upon Articles, he was made ² Governour of the last mentioned Castle, and on the Death of the Duke of *Holland*, was ³ elected a Knight Companion of the most noble Order of the Garter; but being then beyond the Seas, he was installed at *Windsor* by his Proxy ⁴ *Sir Thomas Bar*, 17 Feb. 6 Hen. V.

⁵ He was one of the Commissioners nominated by the King to confer with the *French Commissioners*, about the Surrender of the City of *Roban*, then closely besieged; and after eight Days had been spent without Effect, which induced the *English* to break off the Negotiations, the Townsmen mutinying, forced the Magistrates to a Compliance; who thereupon came to *Sir John Robsart's* Tent, intreating him to move the King to continue the Truce four Days longer, which being granted, the City was delivered up upon Articles, agreed on by the said *Sir John Robsart*, the Earls of *Warwick*, *Salisbury* and others.
King

¹ *Ibid*, p. 565, 566, 618.

² *Hall's Chron.* f. 58.

³ *Regist. Ord. Gart.* p. 66.

⁴ *Asbmole's Ord. Gart.*

Append. No. LV.

⁵ *Hall*, f. 62.

King *Henry* the Vth gave him the ¹ Castle and Lordship of *St. Saviour le Viscount* as a Reward of his Services, in the seventh Year of his Reign. And the ¹ Year following he, with the Duke of *Exeter*, the Earl of *Salisbury*, and others of the highest Honour and Esteem, were deputed to confer with the *French* King at *Troys*, about King *Henry's* Title to the Crown of *France*, and his Marriage with the Lady *Catharine*, the said King's Daughter. ² And when all was concluded, Sir *John Robsart* was left ³ to attend the said Princess, till the King of *England* should come to *Troys*, to celebrate his Marriage. In the succeeding Year he returned into *England* with the King and Queen, and was ⁴ present at a Chapter of the Garter held at *Windsor*, May 23; but being absent the next Year, when a Chapter was also held, his ⁵ Absence was excused, because of his Attendance on the Wars. The King's Death happening not long after, he attended his Royal Master's Corps over into *England*; and being Keeper of the Seal of the Order of the Garter, was at the ⁶ Feast of *St. George* held at *Windsor*, in the First of King *Henry VI.* but went back to *France*, soon
E after;

¹ Pat. Norm. 7 Hen. V. p. 1. m. 80.

² Hall. f. 68. b.

³ Hist. of *England*, Vol. I. p. 327.

⁴ Regist. Ordinis

Gart. p. 73.

⁵ Ibid. p. 81.

⁶ Ibid. p. 84, 85.

after; and being also a ¹ Knight Banneret, was, with his Brother Sir *Terrey Robsart*, Captain of *Hamby*, retain'd to serve *John Duke of Bedford*, the Regent, who made him ² Captain of *Candebeck*, and (after his Brother Sir *Terrey's* Decease) Governour of *St. Saviour de Ive* in *Normandy*. In the 8th Year of King *Henry VI.* ³ the Duke of *Bedford* dispatched the Earl of *Huntington*, and Sir *John Robsart* to aid the Duke of *Burgundy*, who then laid close Siege to *Compeigne*; there they behaved themselves so gallantly, that the Surrender of the Place, in a short Time, would unavoidably have happened, had not the Duke of *Brabant's* Death caused the Duke of *Burgundy* to depart, and leave the whole Charge of the Siege to the Lord *John of Luxemburgh*, who retired, much against the Will of the two brave *English* Commanders, when the Town was reduced to the utmost Extremity.

SIR *John Robsart* was a Native of *Heinault*, but naturalized in 2 *Hen. VI.* for the ⁴ Præamble to his Patent declares, "That the King in Consideration of the
" long and faithful Services of his beloved
" and

¹ MS. Not. B. 5. in Bibliothec. Joh. Anstis, Arm. ² E. Libris MS. de vit. Mil. Gart. in Musæo Ashmol. Not. 1118.

³ Hist. of *England*, Vol. I. p. 365.

⁴ Pat. 2 H. VI. p.

4. m. 1.

“ and faithful Sir *John Robessart*, Knt. to
 “ his dear Father and Grandfather, with
 “ the Advice and Consent of the Lords
 “ Spiritual and Temporal, and the Com-
 “ mons of *England* in Parliament, grants
 “ to the said *John*, that he should be made
 “ a Native of this Kingdom”, &c. ¹ On
 the Demise of Sir *Lewis Robsart*, Lord
Bourchier, and Knight of the Garter, which
 happened on the *Monday* preceding the
 Feast of St. *Andrew*, 9 *Hen. VI.* he be-
 came his Heir, but Sir *Lewis* having pos-
 sessed that Baronage only in Right of his
 Wife *Elizabeth*, who was Daughter and
 Heir to *Bartholomew* Lord *Bourchier*, this
 Sir *John* received no Summons to Parlia-
 ment like his Brother. ² He had a Re-
 newal of his Grant of one hundred Pounds
per Annum in the 17th of *Hen. VI.* as al-
 so of the fifty Pounds *per Annum* out of
 the Castle Forest, and Lordship of *Reck-*
ingham, which had been granted him by
 King *Henry V.* with Remainder to his
 Son *John*, during Life. He died *Decem-*
ber the twenty fourth, in the 29th of
Henry VI. and was ³ interred in Saint
Francis's Chapel in the *Gray Fryars*, now
 called *Christ's-Church*, *London*; where a
 E 2 raised

¹ Esc. 9 Hen. VI. n. 52.

² Pat. 17 Hen. VI. p. 2.

m. 24.

³ MS. Sub. Effig. Vitell. F. VII. in Biblioth.

Cotton. Ex Registro Ecclesiæ Parochialis de Houghton.

raised Tomb was erected to his Memory, with this Inscription.

Hic jacet strenuus Vir Dom. Johannes Robsart, valens Miles in Armis, qui obiit 24 die Decembris. A. D. 1450.

BUT to return to *Edward Walpole*, Esq; and *Lucy* his Wife, who was Great-Grand-Daughter and Heir to Sir *John Robsart*, aforesaid. He departed this Life in the first Year of *Queen Elizabeth's* Reign, and was interred among his Ancestors at *Houghton*, Jan. 2, 1558. And his Wife *Lucy* was buried in the same Place, Feb. 1, 1559. They left three Sons, *John*, *Richard*, and *Terrey*; and one Daughter, *Elizabeth*, who was married to *Martin Cobbe* of *Snetisham* in *Norfolk*, Esq;. *Richard*, the second Son, stiled himself *Richard Walpole* of *Brakenash*, in the County of *Norfolk*, Gent. He left his whole Estate, by Will, to his younger Brother *Terrey*. However, he bequeathed his great Seal, with the Red Stone and his Tablet of Gold, to *John* his elder Brother. He gave Legacies likewise to *Elizabeth*, *Bona*, and *Catharine Walpole*, his elder Brother's Daughters, and to his Son *Calibot*, as also to *Geffery* and *Thomas Cobbe* his Nephews, and *Robsart*, and *Elizabeth Cobbe* his Nieces, his Brother *Terrey* being nominated

minated sole Executor. This Will bears Date the six and twentieth of *March*, 1568, 10 *Eliz.*

Terrey Walpole the youngest Son had two Wives, *Wyborough* and *Catharine*; by the former he had Issue ² *Richard Walpole*, baptized *Feb.* 13, 1568, and buried *Jan.* 6, 1632; and *Lucy Walpole*, baptized *Feb.* 5, 1569. His first Wife was interred at *Houghton*, *Nov.* 6, 1574. By *Catharine* his second, Daughter and Coheir of — *Threvile*, he had Issue *Alice Walpole*, christened *Oct.* 18, 1579, *Anne Walpole*, *June* 2, 1582, and married to *John Pepys*, of *Ashted* in *Surrey*, *Gent.* and *Edward Walpole*, baptized *July* 2, 1587.

John Walpole, Esq; the eldest of the three Brothers, succeeded to the Manor of *Sidestern* in *Norfolk*, and others, as Cousin and Heir to *Anne Dudley*, who died without Issue, the first Wife to *Robert Dudley*, Earl of *Leicester*, Queen *Elizabeth's* great Favourite, and Daughter and sole Heir to Sir *Joyn Robsart*, Knt. who was Brother to *Lucy*, Wife of *Edward Walpole*, Esq; this *John's* Father. *John Walpole*, Esq; married *Catharine* Daughter and

¹ Ex Registro vocat. Babington, Not. 50. qu. 9. in Curia Prag. Cantuar. ² Regist. de Houghton.

and Coheir to *William Callybot*, of *Coxfortb* in *Norfolk*, Esq; and was interred among his Ancestors at *Houghton*, *March* 29, 1585. *Catharine* his Wife outlived him many Years, and was at last interred near him, *Sept.* 25, 1612. They had a numerous Issue, whereof

Edward, their eldest Son and Heir, who was baptized *Jan.* 28, 1559, died in his Travels.

Callybot their second, was a Twin with *Thomas*. They were both baptized *March* 14, 1561.

Dorothy their eldest Daughter was baptized *Dec.* 25, 1558, and buried *Jan.* 29, 1559.

Catharine their second Daughter was married *Oct.* 3, 1581, to *Phillip Russel*, of *Burnham-Thorp* in *Norfolk*, Esq;

Bona the third Daughter, baptized *Feb.* 14, 1560. She was married to *John Amyas*, of *Delpham* in *Norfolk*, Esq; *Oct.* 18, 1592.

Elizabeth the fourth Daughter, married to *Richard Bunting*, of *South-Creek* in *Norfolk*, Esq; *July* 3, 1591.

Bridget

Bridget the youngest Daughter, baptized Nov. 16, 1569. She was married to *Henry Paynel*, of *Bellhaugh* in *Norfolk*, Esq; July 14, 1593.

Callybot the only surviving Son succeeded his Father, and married *Elizabeth* Daughter of *Edmund Bacon*, of *Halfet* in *Suffolk*, Esq; Anno 1591, by whom he had several Children. She dying, was interred at *Houghton*, Feb. 1, 1624; and he was also buried there May, 4, 1646, leaving his eldest Son *Robert* to succeed him.

John Walpole his second Son, baptized Nov. 20, 1595, had his Residence at *South-Creek* in *Norfolk*, and marrying *Abigail* Daughter and sole Heir of *Froxmer Corbet*, of *Bromes-Thorp* in *Norfolk*, Esq; had Possession of that Seat and Estate. He left only three Daughters Coheirs, *Elizabeth* married to ¹ *Edward Pepys* of *Bromes-Thorp*, Esq; Counsellor at Law. She died without Issue. *Bridget* married to *Francis Thoresby*, of *Gaywood* in *Norfolk*, Esq; and *Susan* to ² *John Hare* of *Snitterton*, Esq; second Son of Sir *John Hare*, and Brother to Sir *Ralph Hare* of *Stow-Bardolph*, Bart.

Callybot Walpole his third Son who was baptized Nov. 27, 1597. died a Bachelour,
as

¹ Ex Stemmate. ² Ex Stemmate de Familiâ Hare.

as also *Bacon Walpole*, the third and youngest Son, who was baptized May 29, 1599.

Elizabeth the eldest Daughter, baptized Oct. 20, 1594, was married to *Thomas Clifton*, of *Toft-Trees* in *Norfolk*, Esq; Feb. 14, 1612. *Anne* the youngest Daughter who was baptized Nov. 21, 1596, was married Jan. 12, 1614, to *Thomas Pettus*, Esq; Son and Heir to *Augustine Pettus* (by *Abigail* Daughter of *Sir Arthur Haveringham*, his second Wife) and Brother to *Sir Thomas Pettus*, of *Rack-Heath* in *Norfolk*, who was raised to the Dignity of a Baronet, Sep. 22, 1641, and died Nov. 21, 1654. The said *Anne* was married a second Time, May 25, to *Sir Henry Hungate* of *Bradenham* in *Norfolk*, Knt.

Robert Walpole, Esq; eldest Son and Heir of *Callybot Walpole*, Esq; was born Sep. 23, 1593. He married *Susan* Daughter of *Sir Edward Barkham*, Knt. Lord-Mayor of *London*, 19 *James I.* and had Issue 1. *Elizabeth*, baptized Jan. 18, 1615, and buried five Days after. 2. *Jane*, baptized Mar. 9, 1617. 3. *Elizabeth*, baptized Oct. 29, 1620. 4. *Edward* his Son and Heir, baptized Nov. 16, 1621. His Wife *Susan* dying, Anno 1622, was buried at *Houghton*, Nov. 9. And he having lived a Widower

one

one and forty Years, died *May 1, 1663*, in the Climacteric Year of his Age; and on the fourth of the same Month was interred nigh her.

Edward Walpole, Esq; his only Son and Heir, married ¹ *Susan* the second Daughter and Coheir of Sir *Robert Crane*, of *Ghilton* in *Suffolk*, Knt. and Bart. Anno 1649, and was ² chosen a Member for the Borough of *King's-Lynn* to the Parliament, which met at *Westminster*, *April 25, 1660*, and voted the King's Return. He and his Father joined with Sir *Horatio Townshend* in fortifying the Haven of *King's-Lynn*, and raising Forces for the King, if he had not been restored peaceably; for this Service he was made a ³ Knight of the *Bath* at King *Charles* the II^d's Coronation; and being chosen a ⁴ second Time for the same Borough in that Parliament, named the long Parliament, he died during the Time of its Session, and was interred at *Houghton*, *Mar. 9, 1667-8*, in the forty sixth Year of his Age. His Lady died a short Time after him, and was also interred there, *July 8, 1667*. He was held in the highest Esteem and Honour by all that knew

F him;

¹ Vis. de Com. Norf. A. D. 1664. in Offic. Arm. ² A List of Parliaments from 1640, to the Restauration of King *Charles* the second, p. 63. ³ *Guillim's* Display of Heraldry, Ed. IV. p. 108. ⁴ Ex Collectaneis Brown Willis, Arm.

him; and so vast a Sense had the Corporation of *Lynn* of his Integrity, and the great Services he had performed in the House of Commons, that they presented him with a noble Piece of Plate, and an Inscription shewing their high Esteem of his eminent Worth and Abilities. He had Issue.

1. *Robert*, born Nov. 18, 1650, and baptized the 28th of the same Month.

2. *Jane*, baptized Oct. 19, 1651, and buried at *Houghton*, Feb. 14, 1652.

3. *Edward*, baptized Oct. 2, 1652, and buried Feb. 11, 1653.

4. *Susan*, born Nov. 3, 1653, and buried May 20, 1659.

5. *Elizabeth*, born Dec. 12, 1654, and buried Apr. 28, 1662.

6. *Anne*, born April 11, 1650, married to *Mountfort Spelman*, of *Narborough* in *Norfolk*, Esq; She died without Issue, Sept. 28, 1691.

7. *John*, born Jan. 28, 1657, died an Infant.

8. *Dorothy*,

8. *Darothy*, born *May 14, 1659*, died unmarried, *Oct. 5, 1694*.

9. *Susan*, born *June 22, 1660*. She was interred at *Houghton, Feb 6, 1665*.

10. *Mary*, born *Aug. 11, 1661*, married to *John Wilson*, of *Leicestershire*, Esq; She died without Issue.

11. *Horatio Walpole*, Esq; born *May 11, 1663*. He married the Lady *Anne Osborn*, Daughter of *Thomas Duke of Leedes*, and Widow of *Robert Coke* of *Holkham* in *Norfolk*, Esq; She died without Issue, *Oct. 17, 1717*.

12. *Edward Walpole*, baptized *Sept. 14, 1664*. He was M. A. and Fellow of *Trinity-College* in *Cambridge*, who departing this Life *Jan. 29, 1688*, was interred in the Chapel of the said College.

13. *Elizabeth* born *Dec. 28, 1665*, was married to *James Host*, of *Sandringham*, in *Norfolk*, Esq;.

14. *Robert Walpole*, Esq; eldest Son of the above mentioned Sir *Edward*, was elected to Parliament, as one of the Representatives for the Borough of *Castle-Rising*,

from the first Year of King *William* and Queen *Mary*, till his Death, which happened in *November*, 1700. He was Deputy Lieutenant and Colonel of the Militia in the County of *Norfolk*, bore several other Offices suitable to his Degree, as his Ancestors had done before him, and was distinguished as one of the politest Men of his Time. His Wife was *Mary*, only Daughter and Heir to Sir *Jeffery Burwell*, of *Rougham* in *Suffolk*, who having outlived him above ten Years died *Mar. 15*, 1711. They had a numerous Issue. *Mary* the eldest Daughter was married in *April* 1689, to Sir *Charles Turner* of *Wareham* in *Norfolk*, Knt. who was chosen one of the Representatives for *Kings Lynn* in 1695, and has been returned for the same Place ever since. In the Year 1708 he was constituted one of the Lords Commissioners for Trade; in 1714, one of the Lords of the Admiralty; and in 1720, one of the Lords of the Treasury, and is now one of the Tellers of *Exchequer*.

THE next surviving Daughter, *Dorothy*, was the second Lady of the Right Honourable *Charles* Lord Viscount *Townshend*. She died 1727.

Susan, the youngest Daughter, was married to *Anthony Hammond* of *Wotton* in *Norfolk*,

folk, Esq.; The surviving Sons were Robert, Horatio, and Galfridus Walpole, who have distinguished themselves by several extraordinary Services to their native Country.

Galfridus Walpole, chose a maritime Life for his Province, and was by a gradual Rise advanced to the Command of the *Lyon*, a third Rate Ship, which he bravely defended in an Engagement during the last War, and had his Right Arm shot off. Soon after the Accession of his late Majesty King George I. he was elected a Member for the Borough of *Lestwithiel* in *Cornwal*, and made Captain of the *Peregrine* (since named the *Carolina* Yacht) and Treasurer of *Greenwich-Hospital*. He was afterwards joint Post-Master General, and Commissioner for the Management of the Post-Office. He married *Cornelia*, Daughter of Mr. *Hayes* of *London*; but departed this Life without Issue, August 7, 1726.

Horatio Walpole, the second Son, has been brought up in the Service of the Crown from his Youth. He accompanied General *Stanhope* (afterwards Earl *Stanhope*) to *Spain* in 1708, as Secretary to the Embassy, which Post he also held under the Lord *Townshend*, when his Lordship

ship was Ambassador at the *Hague*. He was likewise Secretary to the Embassy at the Treaty of *Gertrudenburg*. And also appointed chief Secretary to the Lord Viscount *Townshend*, Principal Secretary of State, on his late Majesty's Accession to the Throne, and was chosen one of the Representatives for *Lestwithiel* in *Cornwal*. He was dispatched to the *Hague* Anno 1715. to take Care of the *British* Affairs, and constituted Secretary to the Treasury at his Return; but he having resigned that Post (when his Brother the Right Honourable Sir *Robert Walpole* resigned his of first Lord Commissioner of the Treasury) he was constituted Auditor of the Trade and Plantation Revenue. He was made Secretary of State for the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and sworn of the Privy Council there, in the Year 1720, when his Grace the Duke of *Grafton* was appointed Lord Lieutenant; and was again made Secretary of the Treasury in *April* 1721. He was chosen Representative for the Borough of *Great Yarmouth* in *Norfolk*, and at the same Time for that of *East-Lox* in *Cornwal*, and on the 15th of *May* 1724, was declared Ambassador extraordinary at the Court of *France*. He married *Mary*, Daughter of *Peter Lombard*, Esq; in *July*, 1720, by whom he has one Son named *Horatio*, and a Daughter, *Mary*.

THEIR

THEIR eldest Brother, the Right Honourable Sir *ROBERT WALPOLE*, was born at *Houghton*, *September 6, 1674*. He was educated on the Foundation at *Eton School*, from thence elected to *King's-College* in *Cambridge*, and there admitted, *April 12*, in the Place of *Horsmonden Cannon 1681*, but by the Death of his Brother, becoming intitled to the Estate, which was inconsistent with the Tenure of his Fellowship, he resigned the same. He hath rebuilt in a most magnificent Manner the ancient Seat of his Family, *HOUGHTON*. He was first elected to Parliament, at *King's-Lynn*, *Anno 1700*, and has been returned for that Borough in all the Parliaments ever since, except during the Interval of one single Sessions, in the Year *1711*, when his extraordinary Weight and Interest in the *House of Commons*, in opposing the pernicious Measures then carried on, rendered it highly necessary for those (who were resolved to gain their Point) to get him out of the House, which was accordingly done, and he was committed to the *Tower*, where he continued during the Remainder of that Sessions. However he was chosen again for the same Place, even during his Confinement, and none of the Threats which were sent down could either deter,

or

or have the least Influence upon that *Steady Corporation*, nor cause them to swerve from the fixed Opinion, they had long entertained of his eminent Services, and strict Adherence to the Interests of his Country. But asking Pardon for this short Digression, I shall now regularly resume his History.

IN June 1705, He was nominated, among others, to be one of the Council to his Royal Highness Prince George of Denmark, Lord High Admiral of England, in the Affairs of the Admiralty.

IN 1707, he was constituted Secretary of War; and Treasurer of the Navy, in January 1709.

UPON Dr. Sacheverel's Impeachment he was chosen one of the Managers of the House of Commons to make good the *Articles* against him: And the Managers had the Thanks of the House of Commons for their Services.

ON the Change of the Ministry, which happened in August 1710, he was removed from all his Posts, and held no Place afterwards during the remaining Part of the Queen's Reign.

BUT

BUT his known Abilities, and his remarkable Zeal for the Succession of the House of *Hanover*, which he had so warmly and successfully Asserted, brought him into the Service of his Country again, soon after his late Majesty's Accession to the Throne; and accordingly he was made Paymaster to the Guards and Garrisons at Home, and to the Forces Abroad, September 23, 1714, five Days after the King's Landing. And a new Privy Council being appointed to meet, Oct. 1, 1715, he was sworn thereof, and took his Place accordingly. On the Tenth Day of the same Month, he was constituted first Lord Commissioner of the *Treasury*, and Chancellor of the *Exchequer*; and the same Year chosen Chairman to the Committee of Secrecy, appointed by the House of Commons, to enquire into the Conduct of those evil Ministers, "That brought a Reproach on the Nation, by the unsuitable Conclusion of a War, which was carried on at so vast an Expence, and attended with such unparallel'd Successes".

ON the Tenth of *April*, 1717, He voluntarily resigned both his high Posts of first Lord Commissioner of the *Treasury*, and Chancellor of the *Exchequer*.

And on the Fourth of *June*, 1720, He was once more made Paymaster General of all his Majesty's Forces; and on *May* 4, First Lord Commissioner of the *Treasury*, and Chancellor of the *Exchequer*. His late Majesty declaring to his Parliament, *May* 26, 1723, that some extraordinary Affairs required his Presence abroad for the Summer, he was pleased to nominate Him one of the Lords Justices for the Administration of the Government, and He was, by his Majesty's Command, sworn sole Secretary of State, during the Absence of the Lord Viscount *Townshend*, and the Lord *Carteret*, who accompanied the King to *Hanover*.

HIS Majesty conferred the Dignity of Knighthood of the *Most Honourable Order of the Bath*, upon Him, on *May*, 27, 1725, at the Time, when his Royal Highness Prince *William*, and several Lords, and Persons of Distinction were Invested with the Ensigns of That Order. And on the 7th of *June* the same Year, he declared him One of the Lords Justices, for the Administration of Affairs, during his continuance at *Hanover*. On *May* 26, 1726, He was elected Knight Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Garter (with his Grace the Duke of *Richmond*,) and Installed at *Windsor* on the 16th of *June*

June following. He resigned the *Red-Ribbon* of the *Order of the Bath* in a Chapter held the 6th of *June*, 1728.

SIR *Robert Walpole* married *Catherine*, Daughter of *John Shorter*, Esq; (and of *Elizabeth* his Wife, Daughter of Sir *Erasmus Philips* of *Piçtoin-Castle* in *Pembroke-shire*, Bart.) He has Three Sons now living, viz. *Robert*, *Edward*, and *Horatio*. His only Daughter, *Mary*, married to the Lord Viscount *Malpas*, Son and Heir Apparent to the Right Honourable *George* Earl of *Cholmondeley*, Died of a Consumption in *France*, 1731-2, But her Corps was brought over, and Interred at *Houghton*.

ROBERT his Eldest Son, and Heir Apparent, having had all imaginable Advantages in his Education at Home, set out on his Travels *Anno* 1720. And in Consideration of the great Services of his Father, and Family, he was (before his Return) Created a Peer of *Great Britain*, by the Name, Style, and Title, of Baron *Walpole of Walpole* in the County of *Norfolk*, by Letters Patent bearing Date, *June* 1, 1723.

THE *Reasons* which induced his late Majesty King *GEORGE* I. to confer this Dignity, are justly and elegantly set forth in the Preamble to his Patent, viz.

CUM se, Meritis suis erga nos, nostramque Domum, & Patriam suam quamplurimis, egregie nobis commendârit per dilectus & perquam fidelis, Consiliarius noster Robertus Walpole, Ærarii nostri, cum viris selectioribus, Præfectus, nec non Scaecarii nostri Cancellarius, non indignum duximus, qui in Procerum nostrorum Ordinem co-optaretur.

SED cum ipse malit amplissimos Honores meruisse, quam assequi, quo Familiæ saltem ejus Nobilitandæ consulatur, statuimus Honores, Patri debitos, in Filium conferre, & Robertum Walpole juniorem Optimatum ordini adscribere.

QUO de Adolescente nihil non præclarum licet ominari; qui optimam jamdudum Indolem Disciplinis optimis excoluit; idque nunc agit, ut quicquid scitu dignum alicunde conquiri possit, domum comportet: Cum domi interim habeat, unde discat, si quid sit reliqui, quod est egregium; Nec fas est dubitare, quin Patrem ducem secutus, dignitatem ex Paternis meritis oriundam, Suis posthac auctiorem Posteritati traditurus sit.

QUIN & id volumus optimæ spei Juvenem Titulos inde suos auspiciari, unde & nomen Walpolianum, & Gens illa per vetusta, duxit originem; quæ à primis usque Edwardorum

orum temporibus in agro Norfolciensi confedit, ibique nunquam non inter maxime ingenuas habita est ac celebrata. Sciatis, &c.

FORASMUCH as our Right Trusty and Wellbeloved Counsellor *Robert Walpole*, One of the Lords Commissioners of Our *Treasury*, and Chancellor of Our *Exchequer*, has recommended himself to Us, Our Family, and his Country, by his great Merits and extraordinary Endowments: We deemed it a *Duty incumbent upon Us*, to call him up to the Rank of *PEERAGE*.

BUT as he was more ambitious of meriting Honours, than acquiring them; that his Family might at least be ennobled; We have resolved to confer those Honours on the Son, which were his Father's Due; and to rank *Robert Walpole the Younger*, among Our Nobility. From which Gentleman, whatever is great, or glorious, may reasonably be expected. He has long since shewn a very Ripe Genius to *Literature* and the *Sciences*, and now resolves to bring whatever is worthy his Notice from Foreign Countries.

AND as he has One at Home, who will be his Instructor in whatever may have escaped his Observation Abroad; We make no Doubt, but by the Assistance of so able

a Guide, he will deliver the Dignity, derived from his Father's Merits, enlarged to his Posterity.

IT is moreover Our Pleasure, that a Youth of such extraordinary Hopes, should take his Titles from the Place, whence the *ancient Family* of *WALPOLE* derived their Name, which *Family* hath flourished in the County of *Norfolk*, ever since the Reign of *EDWARD I*, where it has been always held and esteemed among those of the chiefest Note.

THE *ARMS* of *WALPOLE*, are,

I. Or, on a *Fess*, between two *Chevrons* *Sable*; Three *Cross-Crosets* of the *First*.

II. *CREST*. On a *Wreath*, the *Bust* of a *Man* side-faced, couped *Proper*; with a long *Cap*, *Gules*, thereon a *Catherine-Wheel*.

This *Crest* belonged to the Family of *Robsart*, and was given in Honour of the Memory of Sir *John Robsart*, Knight of the *Garter*, for his eminent Services against the *Saracens*.

III. *SUPPORTERS*. On the *Dexter-Side*, an *Antelope*, and on the *Sinister*, a *Buck*, both *Argent*, attired *Proper*, gorged

ged with *Collars*; *Cbeckie*, *Or*, and *Azure*, each having a Chain thereto affixed, their *Hoofs* Gold.

IV. MOTTO. FARI QUÆ SENTIAT.

HIS Lordship, soon after his Return to England, married *Margaret*, Daughter and Sole Heir of *Samuel Rolle* of *Heanton* in the County of *Devon*, Esq; on *Thursday March 27, 1724*.

HAVING thus faithfully given the *Genealogical History* of the FAMILY of WALPOLE, I shall next enquire into the Conduct of that *Honourable Person*, who is the greatest Honour to it. I mean *Sir Robert Walpole*; and shall therefore begin my Enquiry with his *FORAGE-CONTRACT*, made in the Year 1712.

THE Censure passed upon him in Parliament, I shall clearly prove, was chiefly owing to his Attachment to the Persons and Services of the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Lord Treasurer *Godolphin*. And it must be the most extreme Pleasure, to all true Lovers of their Country, to see that *Sir Robert Walpole* hath lived to avenge the Wrongs of those Two Illustrious Patriots on their detestable Oppressors; such as *B——ke*, *P——y*, *W——m*, *Sh——n*,
and

and the Laird and Master of the *Clamorous*
Clan CALEB D'ANVERS, *cum multis*
aliis, &c.

IT is with the greatest Satisfaction to my self, that my Voluntary, not Venal, Pen, is from an innate Love of Justice prompted at this Juncture to explain this Affair both to the present Age, and the latest Posterity; especially, when those who voted Mr. WALPOLE, Not GUILTY, and defended his Innocence with the warmest Zeal; when those who endeavoured to dignify his Disgrace, by making themselves the Companions of his Imprisonment; and when those who declared, that the Judges alone were convict in his Case, whilst the accused Man in the Eye of Conscience and Honour was found innocent; when *these*, I say, reproach him with Guilt of which they then acquitted him, and brand him with Crimes of which they then absolved him: It is highly fitting, that since their own Voices are no longer an Evidence of Truth, or a Security for Innocence, that we fly to the Truth of Things, and the real Circumstances of the Case; that we lay before the Public his *original Defence*; and when it is compared with his *Condemnation*, let the World judge for us between this Gentleman and his present Enemies, as they once decided between him and his former Oppressors.

WHAT

WHAT I offer now to the Public, was printed in the Year 1712, and shall be recited without Alteration, to shew that I deal ingenuously, nor want the Assistance of *Misrepresentation* to make a Defence against his infamous Adversaries.

TO set this Matter in a clear Light, it will be necessary to consider the Resolution which the *House of Commons* came to, and the Crimes that Mr. *Walpole* is thereby charged with.

THE Resolution was, That Robert Walpole Esq; (a Member of this House) in receiving the Sum of five hundred Guineas, and in taking a Note for five hundred Pounds more, on account of two Contracts for Forage of Her Majesty's Troops quartered in North-Britain, made by him when Secretary at War, pursuant to a Power granted to him by the late Lord-Treasurer, is guilty of a high Breach of Trust, and notorious Corruption.

THE Crimes then are, a high Breach of Trust, and notorious Corruption; Crimes indeed of a very heinous Nature, and either of them, I shall always think sufficient, to subject any Member to the just Resentment, and Censure of Parliament; but at the same Time, I can never be of Opini-

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nion that any Man ought to suffer for being barely charged with a Crime, unless it be proved upon him, either by positive Evidence, or by such Circumstances as make the Presumption full and clear against him; much less can I give Consent to censure or punish any Man, when most Circumstances concur in his Justification, where the Presumption is stronger in his Favour than to his Prejudice; and especially where there is *positive Evidence upon Oath* to acquit, and not the least Pretence of any direct Evidence to convict; and that this was Mr. *Walpole's* Case, I am confident, you will agree with me, when I have laid before you, the Nature and Circumstances of the Charge against him, and the Defence that he made in his own Vindication.

AS to the first Article of *the Breach of Trust*, I must observe to you, that after Mr. *Walpole* had been heard in his Place, and was withdrawn, there was not one Member of the House that did in the least insist upon that Head; all that spoke were either silent upon it, or did even admit, that he had cleared himself of all Imputation upon that Score; so that indeed, I can no ways account, how that came to be Part of his Censure, but that being made Part of the *Pocket-Question*, agreed upon the Night before, not one Word of it

it was to be altered, let the Evidence upon hearing, be what it would; and indeed, I could wish, for the Honour of the *prevailing Party*, this had been managed with a little more Dexterity, than to let a Question which was the *Judgment of the House in a criminal Matter*, and is supposed at least to be formed upon the Evidence that was given on both Sides, be moved by a Gentleman, who, not being able to repeat his *written Question*, without having Recourse to his Paper, unhappily discovered that the Sentence was fixed and agreed without Doors; and seconded by Another, whose Talent in repeating, for no School-Boy says his Lesson better, had betrayed him to speak a fine Speech upon Corruption and Bribery in general; which being made before the Cause was heard, had the Misfortune not to have one Word in it applicable to the Facts that had been given in Evidence, and will serve just as well upon any other Occasion.

TO remove all Suspicion of Mr. *Walpole's* having any Prospect of Advantage to himself, or any Body else, in making the Contract, he proved, 1. That it was not in his Power; as not being the only Person employed or intrusted by the Government to make the Contracts; and 2. That the

Contracts were made upon the lowest and most advantageous Terms that could possibly be had for the Government.

UPON the March of the *English Dragoons* into *Scotland*, which by the Laws of *Scotland* could not be quartered in that Part of the Kingdom, according to the Method prescribed by the Laws of *England*, the Duke of *Queensberry*, the Earls of *Marr*, *Loudon*, and *Seafield*, and other *Scotch* Lords, that were of the *Queen's most honourable Privy Council*, were ordered to meet and consider of the most proper Methods of providing Forage for the Troops in *North Britain*; who summoned to their Assistance all the *Scotch* Officers of Dragoons that were then in *London*, and did give their Opinions to her Majesty, that the most proper and practicable Method of providing Forage, was to make Contracts with *Commissaries of Forage*, as has been usually practised in *Scotland*, and recommended Sir *Samuel Maclellan*, Lord Provost of *Edinburgh*, who had frequently been employed in this Service before the Union, as a proper Person to be treated with.

THE Proposals of Sir *Samuel Maclellan* were referred to *Lieutenant General Erle*, *Mr. Howe*, *Paymaster-General to her Majesty's Forces*, and *Mr. Walpole*, who at several Meetings

Meetings did likewise consult all the *Scotch* Officers; and the Prices of *nine Pence*, and *three Pence half-penny*, for dry and green Forage for each *twenty four Hours*, were judged reasonable, from the best Information that could be had, and agreed to accordingly, by *Mr. Erle*, *Mr. Howe*, and *Mr. Walpole*, who were jointly and equally concerned with *Mr. Walpole* in settling and agreeing the Prices, although the Contract was afterwards prepared and executed by him, *virtute Officii*, as *Secretary at War*; and this *Mr. Erle* did declare in the *House of Commons* at the Time when the Matter was under Consideration.

AS the making the Contract, and agreeing the Prices and Conditions, was not left solely to *Mr. Walpole*, so he proved beyond Contradiction, that the Bargain was, upon all Accounts, made upon as advantageous Terms for the Public, as possibly could be had; and this was made appear, by comparing the Contract with all former Contracts made before the Union; with the Prices that the *English* Dragoons had been obliged to pay from the Time they marched into *Scotland* to the making of the Contract; and with the Prices which the *Scotch* Dragoons had paid that very Year, before a Provision was made for them by the Contract.

IT would be too tedious to recapitulate here the several Instances that were given to make good this Part of Mr. *Walpole's* Defence; but I beg Leave to mention one Observation or two upon this Head, that seemed to me very material, and shewed the manifest Advantage that the *Commissaries of Forage* had before the Union, from the Nature of the Payments, and the Security for their Money. In those Contracts the *six Months Cess and the In-land Excise* were assigned over to the *Commissaries of Forage*, with full Powers to retain in their own Hands, and to reimburse themselves all such Sums of Money as they should have advanced. In this Contract there could be no Security for the *Queen's Allowance*, but such Provision as the subsequent *Session of Parliament* should think fit to make; there being at that Time no Money voted or granted for this Service; which Payments, whenever they should be made, were still liable to the Hazard of a great Loss by the Discount upon Tallies: And yet notwithstanding these apparent Disadvantages, the *Queen's Allowance* by this Contract was less than the former Allowances by Poundage, before the Union, for the like Number of Horses; and it was evident that the Profit upon the whole Contract to the Undertakers did not

exceed 15 l. per Cent. which will never be thought an unreasonable Profit by any Body that is at all conversant in public Business, where there is no parliamentary Security, where considerable Sums of Money are to be advanced, and a long Credit must be given.

BUT a Contract having since been made at lower Rates, an Inference was drawn from thence of the Unreasonableness of this Contract; but if this Contract was justifiable, compared with all former Contracts, and the Circumstances and Prices that governed at that Time, it is very unjust to make any Imputation from the Plenty or Scarcity, Dearness or Cheapness of Forage that might afterwards happen; besides the new Contract that was made upon lower Terms proved destructive of the Service, as appeared by a Memorial signed by the Colonels and Commanding Officers, which was presented at the War-Office, setting forth, that upon Account of the Forage which was contracted for at such low Rates, the Country cannot afford to bring it to Quarters, nor to give good in its Kind; and that the Contractor has not any Magazines as he ought to have for the necessary Supply of the Troops; for Want whereof the Troops are so dispersed, and separated at such Distances, that they are rendered utterly incapable of
any

any Service, and the Officers can no ways be answerable for their good Order and Discipline.

BY what has been said it appears, that all possible Care and Precaution was used to obtain the most advantageous Terms that could be had for the Government, and that the Forage could not be supplied at lower Rates consistent with the Service, which leaves no Room to suspect that the Contract was made with any View or Prospect of a private Advantage to Mr. *Walpole*; or any other Person, and sufficiently clears Mr. *Walpole* from the first Part of the Charge, wherein he is said to be guilty of a *high Breach of Trust*.

It comes now to the second Article, wherein Mr. *Walpole* is charged with *notorious Corruption*. A Censure of this Nature ought to be grounded upon Evidence, where the Notoriety of the Fact makes the Truth unquestionable; and not upon Suspicion, which cannot in any Justice be thought sufficient to call a Crime notorious; and that there was nothing but a bare Suspicion in this Case, may truly be affirmed, because the Charge itself amounts to no more before it comes to be controverted; but when *positive and express Evidence upon Oath* is brought in Opposition to a *bare Presumption*, with what Justice can

can a Crime be called notorious? Yet if what was offered in this Case had been only in Mitigation of the Crime, I should not have thought the Proceedings so very extraordinary: But as the Evidence that was given, did in my Judgment fully acquit Mr. *Walpole*, I will endeavour to give you the same Satisfaction that was given me, by considering and stating, as far as I am able to recollect it, the Evidence as it stood on both Sides.

THE Ground of the Charge is contained in Mr. *Montgomery's* Deposition, the chief Part of the Defence in the Deposition of Mr. *Mann*, and the Narrative of Col. *Douglas*. The two first were sworn before the *Commissioners of public Accounts*, and the *Narrative* is the Substance of the Evidence which Colonel *Douglas* gave in his Place as a Member of Parliament; which for Mr. *Walpole's* further Justification he reduced into Writing, and signed. And let me only observe here, that neither the Deposition of Mr. *Mann*, nor the Narrative of Colonel *Douglas*, do any ways contradict the Deposition of Mr. *Montgomery*, but only explain those Facts and Assertions, which are not in themselves a direct Charge, but seem conceived in general and obscure Terms, on purpose to

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leave Room for those unjust Inferencees that were drawn from them.

THE Fact charged is, " Mr. *Walpole's* " receiving the Sum of five hundred " Guineas, and taking a Note for five " hundred Pounds more, on Account of " two Contracts for Forage made by him, " &c." The Evidence to support this, is, that Part of Mr. *Montgomery's* Deposition, that says, " This Deponent gave Mr. *Wal-* " *pole* a Bill or Note payable to himself, " or Order, and delivered it into his Hands, " and that he paid the said Sum to Mr. " *Mann*, who delivered the Note to this " Deponent with Mr. *Walpole's* Receipt " upon the Back of it." The like for the second Year. The Question will then be, upon what Account these Notes were given to Mr. *Walpole*? and whether the Money was received by him, for him, or for his Use? Even Mr. *Montgomery* the Informer swears, *That Sir Samuel Maclellan, who made the first Contract with Mr. Walpole, told him when he was at London, and soon after upon his Death-bed at Edinburgh, did declare the same, that a Friend of Mr. Walpole's was to be a Sharer in the Contract. Colonel Douglas, who was equally concerned, declares, That Sir Samuel told him, that among others, he had admitted a Gentleman in London, recommended to*
him

him by Mr. Walpole, for a Share, and that he always understood, that Sharer was to bear equal Risque with the Rest, in case any Loss should be. And Mr. Mann swears that By an Agreement betwixt him and Sir Samuel Maclellan, he was to be a Sharer in this Undertaking, at equal Profit, or Loss, as should happen or arise in performing the Contract, together with such other Partners as should be taken into the Contract by Sir Samuel Maclellan, upon his Arrival in Scotland. So that all Evidence agrees, a third Person, a Friend of Mr. Walpole's, or recommended by him, was to be concerned; and Mr. Mann swears positively himself to be this third Person.

THE next Step is, Mr. Montgomery swears, that John Campbel and Colonel Douglas directed him to pay five hundred Guineas to Mr. Walpole. What says Colonel Douglas to this? That Sir Samuel Maclellan being dead, and he not knowing the Person, nor at that Time remembering his Name, judged it most proper to have the Money made payable to Mr. Walpole, or Order, for the Use of his Friend; and that upon hearing the Name of Mr. Mann, he recollects that to be the Name of the Gentleman that Sir Samuel Maclellan named, as the Person recommended, to be a Sharer in the Contract. This surely explains why

the Notes were made payable to Mr. *Walpole*, and delivered to him, and is a further Proof, that Mr. *Mann* was from the Beginning, the Person concerned in the Contract, and for whom the Share was reserved by Sir *Samuel Maclellan*.

Mr. *Montgomery* likewise swears, *He paid the said Sum to Mr. Mann, who delivered him the Note with Mr. Walpole's Receipt on the Back of it.* This Mr. *Mann* admits to be true, and at the same Time upon his Oath declares, *That he received the Money due by the said Note from Mr. Montgomery, at several Times, for which he gave his own Receipts, and in his own Name, at the several Times of Payment; which Receipts at the Payment of the last Sum, were cancelled, and a Discharge, or Receipt in full was written upon the Back of Mr. Montgomery's Note, over Mr. Walpole's Name, that was before only a blank Endorsement, which was done upon closing the Account betwixt Mr. Montgomery and the Deponent, as is usual upon the like Occasions.* And here it is to be observed, that this Note remained all this Time in Mr. *Mann's* Hands, until it was taken up and cancelled, together with the several Receipts at the Payment of the last Sum. And in the same Affidavit Mr. *Mann* further deposes, *that the several Sums of Money re-*
ceived

ceived by him from the said Mr. Montgomery upon the two Notes of five hundred Guineas and five hundred Pounds, were received by him for his own sole Use and Benefit, and that he has not paid the said Sums, nor any Part thereof, nor accounted for them, nor is under any Obligation or Agreement to pay or account for the same, or any Part of them, to any Person whatsoever, but that the same does, and is to remain to his own sole Benefit or Advantage.

IS it possible then that any Thing can be more clear and express than the Answers that were given to every Part of the Charge against Mr. *Walpole*? Or could better Evidence be expected in this Case, than to prove by Evidence upon Oath that Mr. *Walpole* was no ways concerned but in recommending Mr. *Mann* to be a Sharer in the Contract; that the Death of Sir *Samuel Maclellan*, who alone had negotiated that Affair, occasioned Mr. *Walpole's* Name to be made use of; that Mr. *Walpole* endorsed the Note in Form only, as an Assignment to Mr. *Mann*, for whose Use and Benefit the Note was given; and that Mr. *Walpole* had not the least Interest or Advantage, directly or indirectly, in this whole Affair?

BESIDES the *positive Evidence upon Oath*, the concurring Circumstances render even the Presumption stronger in Mr. *Walpole's* Favour, than to his Prejudice: The first Contract was made in *May*, 1709, to determine in *May*, 1710; but the first Note was not given till the 29th of *June*, 1710, which was above a Twelvemonth after the Contract was made: Is it then more reasonable to suppose, that this was given as a Consideration to influence Mr. *Walpole*, in making a Contract, which was executed a Year before, and was then expired; or that it was a Proportion of Profit, due to Mr. *Mann*, as a Sharer, for which the other Contractors did not account to him, until they saw at the Year's End the Neat Profit upon the whole, and could thereby determine what his Share amounted to? But may it not be presumed that Mr. *Mann's* Name was only made use of, and that this Share was in truth reserved for Mr. *Walpole*? You have already heard what Mr. *Mann's* Oath says in Answer to that: But consider it, by Way of Argument; Mr. *Walpole* is supposed in this Way of arguing, to have had Caution enough, not to let his own Name be made use of for his Share, in making a Contract with Sir *Samuel Maclellan*, to have substituted Mr. *Mann* to meet Sir
Samuel

Samuel at a Tavern, and to personate him through the whole Progress of this Affair, where any Conversation or Discourse was had about it, and not to trust any of the Contractors with the Secret of his being concerned, (for that *Mr. Montgomery* did not pretend to say, that ever he had heard or believed; and Colonel *Douglas* declared directly the contrary) and at last, after all this great Care and Caution, takes the Note payable to himself, and endorses it. Is it reasonable to believe that so much Care and Caution should be used all along, and at last be forgot, just when it became most necessary? Is it probable that there should be so much Management, where there was least Danger, and that *Mr. Walpole* should be so weak, as to give his own Hand in Evidence against himself, if he had been really concerned? Had it not been as easy to have had the Notes made payable to *Mr. Mann*, or could that have been forgot, if there had been any Art or Collusion that was before covered and disguised under his Name? For my Part, I think the Note being made payable to *Mr. Walpole*, rather argues an Innocence than a Guilt, because nothing is so common, and obvious, as to use a third Name, where any sinister End is to be concealed.

WHAT

W H A T has hitherto been said, relates chiefly to the *first* Note only, but is applicable in general to the whole Transaction; but there being some Difference in the Circumstances between the two Notes, I beg your Patience for an Observation or two, that chiefly concern the second Note.

I T is said, that admitting all that Mr. *Walpole* alledges in Relation to the *first* Contract to be true, and that there is no Blame to be imputed to him upon that Account, how came Mr. *Walpole* to make a *second* Contract, upon the same Terms, when he knew there was such a Profit upon the first? In Answer to this, I appeal to the Proceedings of the *House of Commons*, printed by their Order; where by the Dates, you will find that the *second* Contract was made before the first Note was given; the *first* Contract was made for supplying Forage from *May*, 1709, to the 14th of *May*, 1710; which being then determined, the *second* Contract for Forage, from the 15th of *May*, 1710, to the 15th of *May*, 1711, was made before the Note was given, which was on the 29th of *June*, 1710; and in Consequence Mr. *Walpole* at making the *second* Contract, had no Knowledge of the Profit that arose from the first.

A GREAT Stress is laid upon Mr. *Walpole's* having endorsed the first Note, which is called a giving his Receipt for the Money; but the second Note, it seems, was never endorsed at all; and yet there had been above 400*l.* paid upon it, for which Receipts were given by Mr. *Mann*, or for his Use, upon distinct Papers, and not entered upon the Note, nor any Mention made of Mr. *Walpole*, to whom the Note was made payable, and without whose Order, or Endorsement, there could be no Discharge for the Money. What stronger Presumption can there be, than that Mr. *Montgomery* at the Time of Paying this Money, was satisfied, that Mr. *Mann* had a Right to the Money, whose Discharge he took for so great a Sum, without any Mention made or Relation had to the Note, upon which it was due? So that to read this Note, and the Receipts which were given for the Money, as they are printed by Order of the *House of Commons*, is almost alone sufficient Evidence, to convince any Man, that this Money was paid for the Use and Benefit of Mr. *Mann*; and that Mr. *Montgomery* without being satisfied it was so, would hardly have paid such a Sum of Money, for which he had still been accountable.

I REMEMBER there was an Objection made, to something that dropt from Mr. Montgomery at the Bar of the House, as if the five hundred Pounds received by Mr. Mann, was more than a just Share, arising from the Profits of the Contract. In Answer to this, I must observe, that the Share reserved for Mr. Mann is stated by the Commissioners of publick Accounts, to be a fifth Part; and the Share for Sir Alexander Murray, by the Evidence of Colonel Douglas, and the Oath of Sir David Dalrymple, who was likewise sworn upon this Account by the Commissioners, to be a fourteenth Part; and Sir Alexander Murray receiving for his fourteenth Part 200*l.* proves the Profit upon the whole to be about 2800*l.* which entitled the five principal Partners to above 500*l.* a Piece for their respective Shares; but having this Occasion to mention the Profits, it will not be improper to acquaint you, that each Year's Contract amounted to about 20,000*l.* that the Profit upon the whole may not be thought exorbitant.

I HAVE heard an Objection raised from Mr. Mann's refusing to be a second Time examined by the Commissioners of publick Accounts, from whence a Consciousness of Guilt is inferred, as if the Cause
was

was not able to abide a stricter Examination; in Answer to this, it is first observable, that if there be any Weight in the Objection, it could have no Weight or Influence in the *House of Commons* in convicting Mr. *Walpole*, because the Complaint of Mr. *Mann's* Refusal was not made to the *House*, till after the whole Proceeding was over and passed; But if it makes any Impression upon Men's private Opinions, it is necessary the World should know, that when Mr. *Mann* went and voluntarily offered himself to be examined by the *Commissioners*, after the Deposition was made in Justification of Mr. *Walpole*, Mr. *Mann* was examined and cross-examined upon his Oath by the *Commissioners* for above three Hours, from whence they formed that notable second Deposition, that they thought worth presenting to the *House of Commons*; but in forming this second Deposition, they made themselves the sole Judges of what should be inserted, and what omitted, and thereby left out several Things that were material to explain the other Parts of the Information; this Method of Proceeding, Mr. *Mann* might well apprehend would tend more to ensnare him, than to set the Matter in a true Light; and by the Account that I have heard of the Methods that the *Commissioners* take in their Ex-

aminations,

aminations, and reducing them afterwards into Form, wherein although they add nothing, they take upon them to leave out as much as they please, which is never more than all that makes against their Purpose; I do not at all wonder that any Man who has the least Regard to his own Reputation, is unwilling to subject himself to such new Methods of Justice: But if seven such ingenious Persons were not able in *three Hours* Examination to puzzle and confound an illiterate Person, enough to draw from him any thing that did in the least affect Mr. *Walpole*, it will be very hard to make an Inference to Mr. *Walpole's* Prejudice, because Mr. *Mann*, who is by no Law subject to their Jurisdiction, as having never been concerned in any publick Capacity, was unwilling to be examined again upon his Oath, after he had given them all the Information that he could, and had submitted to a *three Hours* Examination the Day before.

I HAVE now given you the best Account I am able from my Memory, and the short Notes I took upon this Occasion, of the Evidence which convinced me, that Mr. *Walpole* was neither guilty of the *Breach of Trust*, nor the notorious Corruption, which was laid to his Charge: Such Evidence, as I must declare, shall always have
Weight

Weight with me; *Evidence upon Oath*, the Oath of a Gentleman of known, Substance, unblemished Character, and undoubted Credit and Reputation, supported by the most publick and solemn Declaration of a Member of Parliament, (where no Oath can be taken) and confirmed by so many concurring Circumstances and very strong Presumptions. If on the contrary, bare Presumption and remote Inferences drawn from an Information loosely and artfully expressed, and for which the *Informer* has since been so well rewarded, can come in Competition with such *positive Evidence upon Oath*; whose Honour and Reputation, whose Life or Estate can ever be in Safety?

to WHAT a Precedent will this be for any future Parliament, that shall be inclined or instigated by a Ministry to oppress any particular Member, if such Evidence, as in no other Court, by no Jury, would be admitted to convict a Man even of *Petty Larceny*, shall be then thought sufficient to deprive a Gentleman of his Liberty, his Seat in Parliament, and to brand his Name and Character with the infamous Mark of Corruption? The Time may come when it may be thought the peculiar Privilege of the *Guardians of the Liberty of the People*, to
 censure,

censure, defame, and imprison, without Evidence, or even contrary to direct Evidence; but hard will be the Fate of any Gentleman, who shall suffer thus without Redress, who is innocent, and proved innocent, by all the known Rules of Law and Justice. If Judges are once allowed to act, as they shall believe or disbelieve, in their own private Opinions, and are not to be goverhed and directed by the Evidence, that is given before them, how precarious must the Liberty and Property of the Subject be immediately rendered?

— IF *positive Evidence upon Oath*, impugned by Presumption only, is not sufficient to acquit a Man, who that is charged in Parliament can ever be acquitted? Who can tell how soon it may be the Fate of some of those Gentlemen, that our Friends think they are now serving, to have this Practice retorted upon them? Another Parliament may differ as much from this, as this has differed from former Parliaments; and those, that are now employed, it may be presumed, will have acquired some little Knowledge in Business, by the Time that they may happen to be removed, sufficient, at least, to give some Trouble in Parliament to those that shall then enjoy their Offices; what Ministry, if in Times to come there shall ever arise a Ministry, that

that *delights in* Defamation, and will con-
 descend to such mean and vile Practices,
 can ever want Informers to fix a Charge
 upon such, as shall be then troublesome
 or obnoxious to them for not joining in
 their Measures. And how will it be possi-
 ble for any Man to escape a Censure, if
 what some Men may be willing to call a
 Presumption, shall be admitted against po-
 sitive Evidence upon Oath? What Security
 can any one have in such a Case, unless
 the Country Gentlemen, who have want-
 ed Opportunities to get Knowledge and
 Insight into the Publick Business and Ac-
 counts, shall begin to think it ill Policy,
 to be such Tools to a Ministry, as to re-
 move from among them such as are able
 to prevent their being imposed upon?
 THE Prejudice of Party might per-
 haps have prevailed upon me to come up
 to a Censure of Mr. *Walpole*, and the In-
 fluence of those, who thought it necessary
 to remove him, might have induced me,
 to gratify them so far, as to have joined
 in barely ridding them at present of such
 troublesome Company; but when nothing
 less than a Censure of *notorious Corruption*,
 which supposed at the same time Subor-
 nation in Mr. *Walpole*, and Perjury in Mr.
Mann would satisfy, I could not persuade
 my self to go such a Length, in the Face
 of

of as direct and positive Evidence as in my Opinion ever was or can be. I do allow, that in some Cases a presumptive Evidence must be admitted to be of Weight, but never where it is contradicted by a positive Oath; but where the Evidence is only Presumption, how many Circumstances are to be considered, that will very much strengthen or invalidate the Probability. In this Case had there been nothing but the Character of the Person concerned, I must own it would have weighed very much with me; that which every body easily believes of one Man, is often very incredible of another; and here I must do Mr. Walpole the Justice to say, that his worst Enemies never so much as suspected him, of making any indirect Profit or Advantage to himself, in the several Offices where he has had the Honour to serve. The Opportunities which he has had of getting Money, and such Temptations as he has withstood, that few perhaps who went before him, or shall come after him, will have Virtue enough to resist, are so many Proofs of his Integrity, sufficient alone, with any impartial Man, to outweigh a bare Presumption; and when I see any Gentleman who has served in such Employments, undergo so strict an Inquisition, by such as want nei-
ther

ther Will nor Power to sink his Character, and find no more is laid to his Charge, and that no better supported, I shall always be of Opinion that such a Prosecution serves more to advance his Credit and Reputation, than any ways to sully the Honour and Esteem which he had obtained in the World.

IT is the Business and Duty of the *House of Commons* to enquire into all Abuses and Corruptions, and when any shall be made out before them, to do themselves and their Country Justice; but if I should live to see the Day, when Men are tried, and not their Actions, when a Prosecution is carried on, with more Regard to the Person, than his Crimes, I hope I shall be excused from joining in any such barbarous and unjust Attempt.

THE greatest Reproach to Parliaments has been, the notorious Partiality of Committees of Elections, which though it is a Practice that all Parties have been concerned in, is now grown to such a Height, as to give just Offence and Scandal to all the thinking Part of Mankind; but if this Spirit of Injustice shall still farther prevail, and diffuse itself thro' all the Proceedings of Parliaments, how grievous must it be to the People, how destructive and dero-

gatory to the Honour and Dignity of Parliaments! To determine the Right of an Election, not by the Merits of the Cause, but by the *Party* the Member espouses, is certainly most unjust; but to make *Party* the Rule and Measure of all our Actions, to condemn, or acquit by *Party*, in the only Judicature we have, which is that of our own Members; to blast the Honour and Reputation of a Member, and only for *Party*, to imprison, and to add to this the highest Penalty that is in our Power to inflict, Expulsion, and all this for the Sake of *Party*! If this shall ever be thought to be the Case, what can lessen more the Authority and Weight of Parliamentary Censures? What can tend more to make Parliaments not only the Contempt but Averfion of Mankind?

AS I could by no Means consent to the Sentence that passed upon Mr. *Walpole*, so could I as little concur with the Punishment that was inflicted upon him; there is no more known Rule of Justice than that Punishment should be always adequate to the Crime; and admitting Mr. *Walpole* to be guilty of what was laid to his Charge, I confess I thought it a particular Instance of Severity, to proceed to such Extremity with him. Had his Offence been of the highest and blackest Nature,

Nature, and surely no Body will say this was so, it was not in the Power of the *House of Commons* to inflict any farther Punishment upon him, unless they had ordered him to be prosecuted at Law; which I cannot think was avoided by Chance, or out of good Nature, but the Want of such Evidence, as every Man knew would be required in *Westminster-Hall*.

IF the Name of Liberty is not entirely forgotten in *England*, and is still of any Value amongst us; if the Privilege of sitting in Parliament, is to be thought the first Honour an *Englishman* can be ambitious of, and to be expelled from that *August Assembly*, the last Disgrace that can befall him; if a Man's Honour and Reputation is, or ought to be, dearer to him, than Life itself, I hope, I shall be excused by those, with whom I differed, that I could not give my Consent to a *five Months Imprisonment*, which being attended with a great Expence, is likewise a *very considerable Fine*; to an *Expulsion from Parliament*, and to the fixing the *infamous Brand of notorious Corruption*, to be recorded in the *Journals* to all Posterity, upon a Gentleman's Name, whose Character is not inconsiderable, whose Defence was as strong and positive as Words can express, and

especially for a Fact, which if it had been true, did not, in my Opinion, deserve the least of those Severities.

HAVING thus recited the full Vindication of this *Honourable* Person, I shall leave it without any Reflection, to the Judgment of all *unbiassed* Men.

BUT this I will add, from my own Knowledge of Sir Robert Walpole, that he is so far from thinking this, *Parliamentary* STIGMA, a Blot in his Scutcheon; that if the Metaphor be allowed, he looks upon it as the greatest *Glory* in his Arms. And the Mark by which he would be distinguished, to the latest Times, is his steadfast Adherence to that Cause, which was espoused by the Duke of Marlborough, and the Earl of Godolphin.

THE mighty, the loquacious, the slip-pant Mr. P——y who has been kicking against the Pricks with such weak Efforts; betraying private Conversation with such Integrity; associating himself with the Attainted out of such Loyalty! and asserting Falshoods with such Honour; that such only must be his Case *heu! quantum, &c.*

THIS

THIS mighty Patriot of the Populace, would shew more of his Wisdom, in *Looking backwards* and owning, with Truth and Justice, what a Gentleman just now observes, ' That, "the *Honourable* Person, " whom he and his Faction would abuse, " was so far from carrying on clandestine " Negotiations with the Enemies or Disturbers of the Publick, that he would " never unite, nor even converse, with " any of the *Tories*, in his Opposition to " the *then* Administration. He did not " quarrel with the *Ministers*, to get a " better Place. He resigned his great " Employments, when the *Prince* on the " *Throne* intreated him to keep them. He " carried on no *Cabals* against the Interest " of his *Prince*, nor published any Libel " against his *personal Character*. He endeavoured to make no Divisions in the " Royal Family, but laboured with all " his Might, and with happy Success, " to heal those Breaches which have been " made. He faithfully adhered to the Interests of his most sacred Majesty, the " *present* KING, during all the Time of " his Opposition to the Ministers. He " followed his Fortunes, and even seemed " to share his Fate. To his *immortal* " Honour it ought to be mentioned, that

¹ FREE BRITON, N^o CXXV. April 20, 1732.

" they

" they who deprived this Gentleman of
 " his Seat in one House, did at the same
 " Time deny the Duke of Cambridge his
 " Seat in the other; that they who, in
 " the last Reign, caused the P_____ of
 " W_____ to be forbid the Court, did at
 " the same Time force this Minister to
 " fly from it; that when the P_____ of
 " W_____ returned thither, this Gentleman
 " returned with him, and not before:
 " And that, since this August Person hath
 " been invested with the Royal Dignity,
 " his Majesty and his Minister have had
 " the same implacable Enemies, have suf-
 " fered the same infamous Abuse; which
 " however regretted and abhorred, as it
 " was offered to that sacred Character,
 " will ever be mentioned to the Renown
 " of his faithful Servant."

A good Prince can have no Enemy but
 Faction; and that Faction, which abuses
 the Sovereign and the Minister alike, gives
 the latter a noble Testimonial of his Fi-
 delity and Merit.

F I N I S

P O S T S C R I P T.

*Dicique Beatus
Ante Obitum Nemo, Supremaq; Funera debet.*

I Think it is universally allowed, that nothing can add a greater Weight to any Affliction incidental to Humanity, than to reflect, that one has formerly been in a Situation, which seemed to promise an absolute Impossibility of being ever subject to such an Evil. The Recollection of any past Enjoyment is always an Aggravation of the Pain we endure at present. And as the constant Vicissitude of human Affairs leaves the most flourishing Fortune in perpetual Dread of it's Reverse, a Reverse more dreadful from the more promising Aspect of it's present Appearance! it is impossible to pronounce any Man compleatly happy (however he may now be distinguished by Success and Honour) before the Conclusion of his Life, the final Period of his Existence here.

An unlucky Cloud may overcast the very Eve of Age! Some fatal Catastrophe may overtake a Man in his last Scene of Life! We need not raise up the *Pompeys* and the *Cæsars* from the Dead, nor disturb the Ashes of Men less antient, but as well known as they, to evince this Truth. The experienced Author of that instructive Satire, from

M

whence

whence I took the Sentence which stands at at the Head of this Postscript, has supplied us with some memorable Instances which preceded his Time. We ourselves can remember many, and recollect more, which come nearer to our own Days. I shall name, and only name, a *Belizarius* and a *Bacon*; I may add a *Raleigh* and a *Buckingham*: Characters indeed, extremely different, but all conspiring to confirm the Truth of that Assertion.

If that unfortunate Prince, whose protracted Troubles, and unprecedented Death, fill up the blackest Page in English Story, had ended his Reign before the Opening of that melancholy Scene, succeeding Generations might have called him blessed.

And if the Life of a Princess, who inherited from him (let the Reflection fall on any Head but her's, whose Sovereignty, and whose Sex, should secure her from Insult) had not been prolonged beyond her Wars, she had left behind her an unblemished Name; and the brightest Reign, for the Term of it's Duration, that had ever been recorded in British Annals.

In short, one need but cast a cursory Eye over the publick and private Revolutions of the World, to see the rapid Mutability of Fortune; how it is perpetually shifting the Scene in every Circumstance and Degree of Life.

To

To see the entire Enjoyment of Health overcome by Sicknefs and Infirmary; the moft exalted Underftanding clouded with Diftraction, or loft in Dotage; Perfons who have been fitting in the full Blaze of Honour, in an instant covered with indelible Ignominy; fome pleading their Caufe as Criminals, before that very Bench where they once fat as Judges; Conquerors caft down into Captivity, and Princes hurled headlong from their Thrones into Prifons, or into Exile!

In all thefe Cafes, the Mifery that is fuffered is made lefs tolerable by an unavoidable Comparifon with the more pleafing Circumftances which preceded it; fo that a Man can never be denominated truly happy, till he has perfever'd in one conftant Tenor of Action and Succefs through the whole of Life: But few are the Characters that are chequered with no Shade! Few are the Lives that have preferved one Colour from their Commencement to their Conclufion.

The great Perfon who has now wound up his laft Thread of Life, who has juft finifhed his Courfe, and completed his Race of Glory, was one of thofe happy few whofe fetting Rays were, at leaft, as glorious as thofe of his firft Appearance.

This favourite Son of Nature and of Fortune! Endowed with every internal Difpofition, and bleffed with every outward Circumftance, which were capable of promot-

ing his own Happiness, or the common Good.

It is beyond the Design of these short Reflections (which are not intended as a Monument to his Honour, but as a pleasing Speculation to myself) to enter upon an accurate Discussion of any Part of his glorious Life!

His public Transactions will hereafter be recorded with Astonishment, and read with Rapture. And those who have had the Happiness of a nearer View into his Retirement, will recollect, with a melancholy Pleasure, the easy Entertainment of his most private Hours.

I shall confine myself to that one general Observation which first lead me into this Train of Thought: That taking in the whole of his Existence here at one View, and considering this Point of Time as the Termination of it, he seems to have been as completely blessed as Humanity is capable of being on Earth: That whatever Loss the Public, or his own private Friends, may sustain by the Death of one so valuable to both, yet every Man who truly loved him may console himself with this Consideration, That how unfortunate soever his Death may be to others, it must be allowed to have been most glorious to himself; glorious to an uncommon Degree, to see such a Life preserve it's Tenor to the End: No Variation of Principle; no Diminution

Diminution of Honour ; not the least observable Inequality of Temper.

His Life was of a Piece! a Consistency and Uniformity of Conduct and Success ran from one end of it to the other, as if Heaven had intended him for a Pattern of successful Resolution to a most fluctuating and irresolute Age.

His great political Principle was Love of Liberty. His first Struggle was for Liberty, and he struggled with Success. Nor did his Patriotism sink in his Place, the common Burying-Place of modern Patriots. He continued to maintain those very Principles in the Service of two successive Kings, which he had begun to defend in Opposition to two designing Statesmen, to the eternal Honour of his Royal Master's Reign, and of his faithful Ministry: It must be owned, that the People of England have at no Time enjoyed a fuller Scope of every Liberty, even to the Border of it's bad Extreme.

His Success too was as invariable as his Principles. He stood for twenty Years together (an Instance unparalleled in any History) the most formidable Opposition that was ever known. In successive repeated Skirmishes and Engagements, he triumphed without Insolence, and was at last defeated without Dejection. That which was considered as his Overthrow, was, in Fact, the universal Establishment of his Fame, and the entire

rire Confusion of his personal Antagonists. I will not rake up a dying Fire, nor think of heightening that Character by Comparison, which needs no Foil to shew it to Advantage. The Result of a Committee appointed to inspect his Conduct, the constant Attachment to his Person after his Recess from public Business, and the Respect which has been paid, even to his Death-Bed, are such amazing Instances of continued Honour as no past Age has seen, and as the future will scarce believe.

To crown all, that Æquanimity, that undisturbed Composure of Mind, which eased every public Care, and sweetened every private Joy, was in him uninterrupted to the last. It was the best Medicine in his Sickness, the powerful Cordial that supported him under the Decay of Nature; from hence he drew fresh Resources of Comfort in those trying Hours, when every external Assistance fails. When he saw Death before him, he seemed to meet it, as he was used to meet those who threatened to pursue him to it, with an artless Smile. That Serenity, that Intrepidity of Soul, (which is the Effect and Ornament of Integrity) was the Conclusion of his present Happiness, and a pleasing Prelude to Futurity.

What more can be wished for by Man, or bestowed by Heaven! What can those who succeed him in his Honours, or emulate his Conduct, wish more for themselves, than that they may die the Death of this great, this happy Man, and that Their latter End may be like His.

*Natus 25 Novem. 1674. Denatus 18 March
1745. Ætat. LXX.*

